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A Defense Department-chartered aircraft sits in the St. Johns River after sliding off the runway at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Fla., on May 3.

THOMAS A. HIGGINS
Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

'Baby, we're in the water'



For passengers aboard DOD-chartered plane, trauma of crash is still sinking in

By EILEEN KELLEY
AND MARK WOODS
The Jacksonville Florida
Times-Union

The last time Katherine Helms flew home, she had gone into premature labor. She was having contrac-

tions. She had to be medevaced off Cuba.

That trip had a happy ending. Her pregnancy went to full term. Her first child, Wyatt, was born healthy in her hometown of Dublin, Ga. The Helms family returned to Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, where she's an assis-

tant to the base commander and her husband does security work.

Three months later, on May 3, they are flying back home to visit family, this time on a Boeing 737-800. This time with the 27-year-old mother sitting in a window seat near the back of the plane, their baby on her lap, her hus-

band, Donald, next to them.

For the passengers, Miami Air Flight 293 had been trouble from the start. Chartered by the U.S. Department of Defense, a plane flies each Friday from Cuba to Jacksonville. A mix of military members and civilians are on this Friday flight, a flight delayed

by more than four hours, a flight without air conditioning, a flight dodging storms.

Wyatt started the flight wearing a navy blue onesie with a brown puppy on the front. But it is hot on the plane, so hot the Helmses strip Wyatt down to his diaper.

SEE TRAUMA ON PAGE 6

Soldier's medal for valor in Iraq upgraded

By CHAD GARLAND
Stars and Stripes

Nicholas Eslinger was moving toward the grenade before it even hit the ground and rolled toward his dismounted patrol, which was waiting outside an Iraqi house in Samarra province.

The then-second lieutenant jumped onto the explosive device and braced for the blast. But it didn't blow up, so he tossed it back.

No sooner had he shouted, "Grenade!" than it went off, but no one was hurt.

His quick action that night in October 2008 saved six soldiers from potential injury or death, and he received a Silver Star Medal in 2009. This month, he received an upgraded award — a Distinguished

Fort Bragg soldier gets second Distinguished Service Cross for Afghan heroism

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Service Cross, the Army's second-highest award for combat valor.

Gen. Stephen Townsend, commanding general of the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, presented the medal to Eslinger, now a major, at a ceremony last week at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

Gen. Mark Milley, chief of staff of the Army, had signed orders officially upgrading it in February.

"When I heard that Nick's (award) had been approved for an upgrade to a Distinguished Service Cross, I immediately told the chief and vice, 'I want to do that one,'" Townsend said as cited in an Army statement this week. "I was there when he got the [Silver Star]; I want to do this one."

SEE MEDAL ON PAGE 8



Maj.
Nicholas
Eslinger

TISHA
SWARTZ
ENTWISTLE
Courtesy
of the
U.S. Army

MILITARY

Sailors can request special transfers after change to Navy policy

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Actress Wilson fought double standard for comedy rudeness

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Warriors face prospect of being without top scorer Durant » NBA, Back page

MILITARY

Qualifying list for expedited transfers expanded

By SCOTT WYLAND
Stars and Stripes

Sailors who are victims of sexual harassment, stalking or humiliations such as having lewd images posted publicly can request a special transfer away from those accused of the crimes, according to a recent change in Navy policy.

The previous policy generally allowed only sexual assault survivors to request what's known as an expedited transfer that reassigned them temporarily to a different team or unit or granted them an early permanent change of station.

Now, the Navy has expanded the qualifying list for expedited transfers, according to an administrative memo issued Tuesday. These include stalking, other sexual misconduct and wrongful broadcast or distribution of intimate images, which typically means posting the images on social media without the person's consent.

This expanded list goes beyond the practice of other services, whose expedited leave policies are still focused on sexual assault cases.

The transfers are intended to move victims who have filed formal complaints away from settings where they are experiencing ostracism, retaliation or intimidation, or where they are in close contact with the accused.

The revised policy coincides with a recent Defense Department report on the number of sexual assaults increasing across all services, but Navy officials insist those findings do not prompt the changes.



JACQUELYN D. CHILDS/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Navy victim advocates attend a Sexual Assault Prevention and Response summit with joint service SAPR and Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Prevention leaders in San Antonio in 2017.

"While the policy expansion for expedited transfers ties into [the] Navy's overall efforts ... these policy changes are not a direct response to recent sexual assault reports," said Lt. J.g. Stuart Phillips, spokesman for the Navy's chief of personnel. "These changes have been planned and staffed for some time."

Some military leaders have expressed outrage at the rise in the numbers of sexual assaults and

said the services must do more to tackle it.

"This increase is absolutely unacceptable," said Rear Adm. Ann Burkhardt, director of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, when the report was released.

In 2018, 323 sailors requested expedited transfers, up from 305 in 2017, according to data compiled by the Navy.

The policy changes will offer

victims and their commanding officers better guidance on these transfers, Phillips said.

The Navy is clarifying procedures, revising forms that applicants fill out and giving commanders a comprehensive checklist to help them assess the requests, he said.

Sailors can request safety transfers if they feel they or their families are in danger after witnessing or suffering a violent

crime or being threatened.

Other services have their own versions of expedited transfers that follow similar procedures as the Navy's in sexual assault cases, such as a victim having to file a formal complaint that opens an investigation, and the unit commander deciding on whether to grant the transfer.

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MILITARY



PHOTOS BY MARTIN EGNASH/Stars and Stripes

Soldiers competing in the U.S. Army Europe Best Warrior Competition run from a helicopter to the urban combat training area at Grafenwoehr, Germany, on Wednesday.

US soldiers in Europe earn Best Warrior titles

BY MARTIN EGNASH
Stars and Stripes

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany — After a grueling weeklong competition, four soldiers stationed in Europe walked away as winners of the U.S. Army Europe Best Warrior Competition.

The winners were Pfc. Tyler Russell in the soldier category, Sgt. Piotr Drwal in the noncommissioned officer category, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Cole Brown in the warrant officer category and 1st Lt. Joshua Reed in the officer category.

The competition was done in teams this year to best determine how soldiers work together and lead a small unit. Winners

were selected individually from among the teams of four to five.

Numerous tasks each day tested the soldiers mentally and physically. A written exam and uniform inspection tested the soldier's military knowledge.

The physical challenges included a 12-mile ruck march, nighttime defensive tactics and an urban simulated battle in which the soldiers had to evacuate a mock casualty while under fire.

Winners from Europe are expected to compete with winners from other regional commands at the U.S. Army Best Warrior event at Fort A.P. Hill, Va., in September.

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Above: Soldiers rush to a building at the urban combat training area. Below: Soldiers evacuate a simulated casualty.



From left, Pfc. Tyler Russell, Sgt. Piotr Drwal, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Cole Brown and 1st Lt. Joshua Reed hold trophies as winners of the competition during a ceremony Friday.



MILITARY

GAO: F-35's first crash caused by fuel tube defect

By TONY CAPACCIO
Bloomberg News

The crash of a U.S. Marine Corps F-35 that temporarily grounded the entire fleet of next-generation jets in 2018 was caused by a manufacturing defect in a fuel tube made by a United Technologies subcontractor, according to congressional investigators.

The defect "caused an engine fuel tube to rupture during flight, resulting in a loss of power to the engine," the Government Accountability Office said last week in a report on major weapons systems that referred to the September crash in South Carolina. The Pentagon told the watchdog that it identified 117 aircraft — about 40% of the worldwide F-35 fleet at the time — with the same type of fuel tubes that had to be replaced.

The disclosure was the first official information about the crash since the Pentagon program office in late October issued a status statement while the Marine Corps was still conducting its investigation. United Technologies Corp.'s Pratt & Whitney unit "is fully responsible" for "the propulsion system and has the lead in working" the failure analyses, according to the statement at the time.

A spokeswoman for the Pentagon F-35 program office deferred comment to Pratt & Whitney, whose spokesman, John Thomas, said the company had no comment.

Marine Corps spokesman Capt. Chris Harrison said in a statement that the crash probe is continuing and that the results will be released once complete. The Corps has replaced all of the relevant fuel supply tubes and "we continue to strive each and every day to ensure the safety and readiness of our aircraft," he added.

The Sept. 28 crash of the F-35B near Beaufort, S.C., was the first in the 2-decade-old program's often rocky history of delays, cost increases and technical glitches. Although the pilot safely ejected, the incident prompted concerns about the aircraft, which is being built by and sold to an international consortium of U.S. allies, including the U.K., Italy, Australia and Turkey.

The Pentagon program office last year said "more than 1,500 suppliers are in the F-35 program and this is an isolated incident which is quickly being addressed and fixed. Safety is our primary goal."

The defective part identified in the report provides operating pressure to the engine and fuel to the engine combustor.

Aside from the defect, Pratt & Whitney's recent track record delivering engines on time has been spotty. Deliveries surged to 81 in 2018 from 48 in 2012, according to the GAO — yet 86% of those were delivered late, up from 48% in late 2017. The delays were due in part to an increase in the "average number of quality issues per engine" — 941 in 2018, with 777 a year earlier, the GAO said.

Pratt & Whitney told the GAO that "its late engine deliveries increased in 2018 partially due to a subcontractor that did not have all of the needed tooling in place to produce more F-35B engines," according to the report.

The F-35 is the Pentagon's most expensive weapons program, at a projected cost of more than \$428 billion. More recently, a Japanese F-35A crashed off Japan's coast in April, with only portions of the jet's wreckage found since then despite a monthlong search. The cause of the crash is under investigation. The jet's pilot hasn't been found.



ANDREW LAYTON/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

Air Force airmen assigned to the 301st Fighter Wing, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas, prepare to launch F-16C Fighting Falcons at Campia Turzii, Romania, on Wednesday.

US fighter jets arrive in Romania to bolster air deterrence mission

By MARTIN EGNASH
Stars and Stripes

A short U.S. Air Force deployment to Romania is doubling the number of F-16 fighter jets in the country ahead of Romanian plans to purchase more of the U.S.-made aircraft.

More than 250 airmen and a dozen F-16C fighter jets from the Fort Worth, Texas-based 457th Fighter Squadron deployed to Romania this month to strengthen regional air defenses and deter possible Russian aggression.

"We have our 'friendly' neighbor on the east side that sometimes puts a lot of pressure, not only on our country but on the entire eastern flank of NATO," said Romanian Maj. Cosmin Tanase, who has been working with the U.S. airmen. "Having the U.S. Air Force in Romania ensures that any possible aggression would be taken care of right away and would make [them] think twice before coming here."

"Of course, we have our own planes, but having a dozen U.S.

fighter jets on base helps a lot," Tanase added.

The three-month deployment is part of Operation Atlantic Resolve, the ongoing U.S. mission to reassure allies in Europe by positioning troops and equipment to NATO's Eastern borders in response to a resurgent Russia.

"I think our presence here in the region, and our resolve to work with our allies, like Romania, will deter any aggression," said Lt. Col. Josh Padgett, the squadron commander. "Security in Europe is paramount to security in the United States, and missions like this help to strengthen Europe and the NATO alliance."

The deployment of the 12 fourth-generation multirole fighters also gives the transitioning Romanian air force more experience with the jets, Tanase said.

The Romanian Air Force is transitioning from Soviet-era aircraft to F-16s of their own. The service still operates several dozen Lancer C interceptors, a much-upgraded version of the MiG-21. Several dozen single-seat

fighters and two-seat trainers were heavily modified by Israel's Elbit Systems and equipped to carry Western ordnance.

In 2013, Romania purchased 12 F-16s from Portugal and now plans on adding 41 more of the jets in the years to come, according to a statement from Romanian Defense Minister Gabriel Les last month.

"This seems like this is the airplane that will replace the MiG-21, and our [military] feels very confident that this is a very good aircraft," Tanase said, citing the jet's ability to conduct a wide variety of missions as being "perfect, at least for Romania."

The U.S. retains more than 1,000 of the most recent variants of the F-16, which was first delivered to the Air Force in 1979. The aircraft have since undergone numerous upgrades and last year began receiving modifications designed to extend their service into the 2040s, according to previous Air Force statements.

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US, allies testing missile defense off Scotland in high-end sea battle drills

By JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

U.S. and allied warships were beginning live-fire drills off the coast of Scotland on Friday as part of an exercise designed to test NATO's ability to coordinate missile defense during a fight at sea.

NATO's Formidable Shield 2019 exercise is underway with more than 3,000 troops taking part in the drills that are focused on showcasing allied power.

The exercise "demonstrates the United States and our allied maritime partners' high-end warfighting capability in integrated air and missile defense," said Vice Adm. Lisa M. Franchetti, commander of the U.S. Navy's 6th Fleet and Naval Strik-

ing and Support Forces NATO. "This significant investment of resources, time and personnel ensures we are ready to deploy and operate anywhere, anytime to defend the alliance and deter aggression."

The drills, which run until May 19, come at a time of angst in Europe in connection with concerns that Russia's development of a new missile system — the SSC-8 — poses a new kind of threat.

"It reduces warning times to minutes, lowering the threshold for nuclear conflict, and it can reach European capitals," NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg recently said.

The U.S. and NATO say the Russian system violates the Cold War-era Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty,

which the Trump administration warned it will be forced to abandon later this summer if Moscow doesn't come back into compliance.

Meanwhile, Formidable Shield is focused on improving allied defenses against a range of missile threats as well as conducting drone intercepts.

Thirteen ships and more than 10 aircraft are taking part, with contributions from Canada, Denmark, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, the United Kingdom and the U.S. The U.S. destroyers USS Carney and USS Roosevelt are taking part along with the cargo vessel USNS Medgar Evers.

The launch of Formidable Shield comes as allies begin a series of major military

exercises across Europe.

On Friday, U.S. Army Europe launched Immediate Response, which takes place in Croatia, Hungary and Slovenia and involves about 6,500 troops from 15 countries. The exercise is focused on ground forces coordination efforts to deter aggression in the Balkan region, which is an area of growing concern for U.S. commanders.

Meanwhile, NATO on Thursday kicked off its Crisis Management Exercise, which has been conducted 22 times since 1992. The drill tests decision-making procedures in the event of a major crisis that triggers NATO's Article 5 provision, in which allies respond to an attack on a member state.

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PACIFIC

Okinawa residents near air base told not to drink water

By MATTHEW M. BURKE
and AYA ICHIHASHI
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Residents of a town near Kadena Air Base are being told to stay away from untreated spring water after high levels of a banned pollutant were detected last year.

High concentrations of perfluorooctanesulfonic acid, or PFOS, and perfluorooctanoic acid, or PFOA, were found during two underground water surveys in June and July, according to an assessment released April 26 by the Okinawa Prefectural Environment Bureau, administrators of the island's water supply and quality.

"We talked to the neighborhood assemblies to tell their district people not to drink the water in these areas," a Kadena town spokesman told Stars and Stripes last Tuesday. "In these spots, there are animals, like small fish, and kids play in the water. We have asked the prefectural government to do further research to determine where these chemicals are coming from, as well as study the effect on crops as there is a farming area nearby."

The spokesman discussed matters related to pollution on the Japanese customary condition of anonymity.

PFOS and PFOA are synthetic, fully fluorinated organic acids that are virtually the same, though their concentrations differ depending on the product, Okinawan officials previously told Stars and Stripes. They are found in firefighting foam, aircraft grease, water-repellent materials and fluorine chemicals. They have been known to cause tumors, increases in body and organ weight and death in animals.

U.S. military officials in Japan say the source of the PFOS and PFOA pollution on Okinawa is not necessarily U.S. military facilities. They have also begun phasing out old aircraft firefighting foam with one featuring a new

formulation.

Japan has no guidelines on how much of the acids are safe, but health advisories in the United States are issued for drinking water at levels of 0.07 micrograms per liter and above. Their manufacture and importation have been prohibited in Japan since 2010.

Expanded testing

Enterprise bureau officials on Okinawa periodically test for the pollutants at two sites not far from Kadena Air Base. Both are intake pumps for the Hija and Nagata rivers and are approximately a half-mile from the fence line, officials said.

However, in summer 2018 they expanded their testing to 19 sites surrounding the intake pumps because of past high levels. Some of the sites are about a half-mile from the fence line, while others are closer.

Of the 19 spots tested, 13 exceeded safe U.S. drinking water standards, the Enterprise Bureau report states. Five sites exceeded the capacity of the bureau's testing equipment, which was designed to accurately test up to 1 microgram per liter for PFOS or PFOA.

On June 26, 2018, Yara Shiraga's PFOS level was 1.766 micrograms, Yara Ubuga's was 2.821 and the lower Hija River pump intake area's was 2.145. All of those sites are in Kadena.

A month later, they were 1.673, 3.128 and 1.337, respectively.

High levels of PFOS were also detected at Yara Hijaiga, which was at 3.085 on June 11 and 2.901 on June 26.

Prefectural officials have been reporting high levels of these pollutant compounds around U.S. military bases on the island for years. In response to the most recent tests, signs were posted to ensure locals stay away.

Drinking water on and off base is considered safe, a bureau spokesman added. The water



Carlos Vazquez/Stars and Stripes

A sign is posted in Kadena, Okinawa, to warn people not to drink nearby polluted spring water.

— supplied to Kadena and the surrounding area by the Chatan Water Treatment Plant — averages 0.029 micrograms of PFOS and PFOA, collectively, per liter after being treated, though it has been clocked as high as 0.063.

The plant also provides water to Okinawa City, Ginowan, Urasoe, Naha, Chatan, Kitanakagusuku and Nakagusuku.

The 2018 average for water treatment plants in Ishikawa, Nago and Nishihara were all less than 0.01 micrograms per liter. Those treatment plants are in southern, central and northern Okinawa and are not near any military air bases.

Placing blame

Okinawan officials said they believe the pollution is coming from Kadena Air Base; however, they cannot be sure because they don't have base access.

"It is pretty certain that Kadena Air Base is causing the high PFOS by using firefighting foam containing PFOS at the flight line; however, we haven't been able to investigate on their side to make a definitive determination," the Enterprise Bureau spokesman said. We "asked Okinawa Defense Bureau to demand Kadena stop using the firefighting foam containing PFOS and disclose the record of usage in January 2016."

Bureau officials said they were told in February 2016 the foam would be replaced with one not containing the pollutants.

There have been similar issues reported at nearby Marine Corps Air Station Futenma. Seven sites exceeded healthy U.S. drinking water standards in prefectural police.

The Navy is cooperating fully with local police, who have jurisdiction over the investigation since the body was found off base, Nichols said.

Japanese media reported that the sailor died of an apparent gunshot wound. Nichols confirmed that Edwards had access to a secure armory as part of his job and that a weapon was removed from there and taken off

base without authorization. "We take control of our weapons very seriously and are further investigating the incident to ensure strict compliance with internal weapons-control regulations and Japanese law," he said in the statement.

Edwards had been assigned to the Wasp since October 2016. Stars and Stripes reporter Hana Kusumoto contributed to this report. bolinger.james@stripes.com Twitter: @bolinger2004

is for the [foam] concentrate to remain in the fire-suppression system for extended periods," he said. "The government of Japan recognizes the continued use of firefighting foam containing PFOS as change-out takes time."

The air base is transitioning to an aircraft firefighting foam that is PFOS-free and contains only trace amounts of PFOA, Hopkins said. Foam containing the pollutants has already been "swapped out" of the air base's emergency vehicles.

The Marine Corps will be phasing out the foam over the next "several years," Hopkins said. Starting in March 2016, water has been used in all firefighting training at Futenma.

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Navy identifies US sailor found dead in park near Sasebo

By JAMES BOLINGER
Stars and Stripes

The Navy has released the identity of a gunner's mate found dead late Thursday in a public park outside Sasebo Naval Base, Japan.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Chase Edwards, 21, of Euless, Texas, was assigned to the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp, which is home ported at Sasebo.

The cause of death is still under

investigation pending the results of an autopsy, Sasebo Naval Base spokesman Aki Nichols said in a statement to Stars and Stripes on Saturday.

"Our greatest sympathies go to the family of the servicemember and all who are affected by this tragic incident," he said.

Edwards' body was found by police and Navy security personnel just before midnight Thursday in Sasebo's Hirase area, according

base without authorization.

"We take control of our weapons very seriously and are further investigating the incident to ensure strict compliance with internal weapons-control regulations and Japanese law," he said in the statement.

Edwards had been assigned to the Wasp since October 2016.

Stars and Stripes reporter Hana Kusumoto contributed to this report. bolinger.james@stripes.com Twitter: @bolinger2004

MILITARY



THOMAS A. HIGGINS/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

A Boeing 737 aircraft carrying 143 passengers and crewmembers from Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, sits in the St. Johns River on May 4 after sliding off the runway at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Fla., the previous night.

Trauma: Passenger says landing sounded like an explosion

FROM FRONT PAGE

Katherine keeps the baby cool and calm by wiping his body with towels soaked in ice water. The flight attendants keep bringing more chilled towels to Row 24.

Farther up the plane, excessive heat lulls Tyler Hall, 31, to sleep in Row 10. Sweat pools on his forehead and is dripping down his face. He wakes; his clothes are damp.

Riding in a plane with no air conditioning is worse than Hall expected when he and 135 other passengers, along with the seven crewmembers, boarded the Boeing 737 in Guantanamo Bay for a flight to Naval Air Station Jacksonville, the first of many legs to get Hall and his father, Randy, home to Amarillo, Texas.

The Halls were in Cuba preparing to bid to renovate a playground on the base.

Over in an exit row, Randy Hall, 61, sits by the window, cajoling the two strangers next to him into a game of pretend fishing. What's the point of complaining, he tells them. "If we were on a boat fishing and it's 90 degrees, this wouldn't be a problem."

And so they pass the time talking about sports and the imaginary fish they are failing to land in the blazing heat.

Chris La Rue, 32, sits in the aisle seat of Hall's row. He's a civilian employee who spent a week in Guantanamo meeting with the public works department. For him, Jacksonville is the final destination.

It's past 9 p.m. on May 3 when the plane finally begins its descent to the Westside of Jacksonville. The Helmses put Wyatt back in his onesie.

Tyler Hall pulls out his phone to text his wife, Alyson — just as he normally does when he flies as a contractor.

"On final. Completely saturated in sweat.

'Oh, my God, is this it? ... What are we going to hit? Are you going to hit a building? Are we going to hit a pole?'

Chris La Rue

passenger on Miami Air Flight 293

Dripping off my forehead," he writes.

In the cockpit, the pilots of Flight 293 talk to air traffic control about the weather — lightning and heavy rain to the east and west of the airfield — and raise the possibility of switching runways.

The air traffic controller says: "Biscayne 2-9-3, just talked to Navy Jax Tower. He said both runways look pretty bad."

He later suggests to the pilots switching to Runway 10.

"Yeah, go ahead, let's do it," the pilot says.

A strong tail wind pushes the jet to a speed of about 200 mph. It touches down on the east-west runway, bouncing hard, tilting, swerving, zipping past buildings way too fast.

Back in the cabin, Randy Hall looks out the window. It's covered in mud and grass.

"We're off the runway," he says.

Tyler Hall braces himself.

Katherine Helms folds herself around her baby as best she can.

"Oh, my God, is this it?" La Rue thinks "... What are we going to hit? Are you going to hit a building? Are we going to hit a pole?"

The Boeing hits a seawall made of loose rocks. One passenger said it sounded like an explosion.

Passengers fly forward, some hitting the

seats in front of them. They slam back.

Overhead bins open. Belongings fly through the air. Oxygen masks drop.

Tyler Hall feels water — like a bucket full — has been dumped on him.

Helms looks out the window and turns to her husband. "Baby, we're in the water."

'Jet fuel!'

It's dark and wet.

Wyatt, the plane's youngest passenger, cries in a way his parents have never heard. Is he scared? Is he in pain? Katherine Helms sees a knot forming on the left side of his head.

From somewhere, a dog barks.

Someone shouts, "Jet fuel!"

There's a smell in the air and momentary panic. People worry if the wetness they feel is jet fuel.

It's water.

"Get your life vests," Tyler Hall hears.

People ask if a medic is on board.

Tyler Hall's dad is unconscious.

"Clear the aisle. Coming through," someone shouts.

A physician's assistant hunches over Randy Hall, urging him to sit still as he wakes so pressure can be applied to the side down his face.

No time for that, Randy Hall thinks.

"I've got to open this door," he says. He's

a passenger in an exit row. He has a job to do. And so he opens the door. Adrenaline, he says, is an amazing thing. He crawls through the opening and steps out onto the right wing of the plane.

Tyler Hall grabs his phone again and texts his wife:

"I'm ok. Dads ok. Plane not. I'll update," he tells her.

Outside is a rush of wind, lightning and driving rain. Blood pools at Randy Hall's feet as he balances on the wing, reaching through the small door, helping others out. "Go to the end," he tells them.

One by one, they line the plane's wing. He doesn't know if they are in 100 feet of water or 4 feet. He doesn't know if the plane is stable or if it's going to sink.

On the other wing, someone yells: "Watch out! Watch out!"

A passenger shuffles by cradling an 8-month-old baby.

"Baby coming through! Baby coming through!" Tyler Hall yells. A woman echoes the words.

Tyler Hall receives a succession of texts from his wife in Texas:

"What ..."

"What do you mean ..."

"Tyler"

"That's not ok"

They have a 5-year-old son and she is 9 months pregnant.

"We crashed on landing," Tyler Hall responds.

"Are you on the ground?" she texts back.

"Yes on the wing"

"As long as you two are safely on the ground I won't freak out," she responds.

SEE TRAUMA ON PAGE 7

MILITARY

Trauma: For some passengers, renewed sense of gratitude

FROM PAGE 6

Tyler Hall looks across the water and sees about a half-dozen emergency vehicles near the runway.

A rescue worker swims toward the wing. The scent of jet fuel is in the air.

Remarkably, there is no rush of madness to get on board the life rafts. Perhaps that is because so many of those on the plane are military or former military. Many opt to stay on the wing, illuminated by flashes of lightning.

"Woman and children first," someone calls out.

"No, you go. I'm fine," Randy Hall hears someone say.

Katherine Helms boards the raft with Wyatt. The paddles are tucked on the outside. Hands fumble trying to find them. They can't. So the escaping passengers reach into the water and use their hands.

They aren't making progress, so Helms hands Wyatt to someone she knows and hops overboard, tugging the life raft toward the shore now lined with firemen. Some grab the raft.

Rescuers respond

Dozens of first responders from the Navy, the city's fire and sheriff's offices and state agencies are quickly on the scene. Some jump in the river, fighting the current as they swim toward the passengers.

The 136 passengers are taken to a hangar at the base. Names are called out. Injuries

'The sunrise Saturday morning was the most beautiful one I have ever seen.'

Randy Hall
passenger

assessed. A stranger asks Randy Hall if he has contacted family back home.

He hasn't. The stranger hands him his phone. Go ahead, he says.

Tyler Hall sees the pilot. He appears rattled.

Hall sees him grab a phone and hears him say he can retire in peace. Nobody was severely injured. Nobody died.

Tyler Hall catches a ride in an ambulance with his father and another man. They head to St. Vincent's Medical Center, where rooms have been cleared.

The hospital is prepared for the worst. Staff responds quickly.

Randy Hall needs nine stitches. He and his son leave wearing St. Vincent's scrubs to replace their wet clothes.

All told, 22 people are sent to seven Jacksonville-area hospitals for treatment.

Baby Wyatt goes to two of them.

At Orange Park Medical Center, a CT scan shows bleeding on his brain. Wyatt is transferred to Wolfson Children's Hospital in downtown Jacksonville, where he is kept overnight for observation.

By 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, he is OK to leave. Doctors tell his parents to watch for signs of swelling, seizures or abnormal behavior.

La Rue returns home to Jacksonville's Southside.

Tyler and Randy Hall hop in a rental car and head to Jacksonville International Airport for an early morning flight to Dallas. At the airport, Randy runs into one of the passengers he had passed the time with on the hot flight.

"I was wondering what happened to you," the former seat mate says. They embrace.

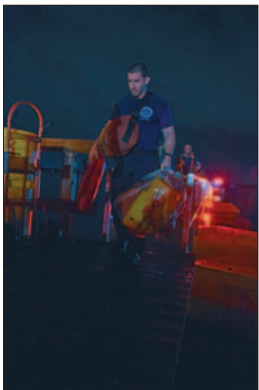
About an hour into the flight to Dallas-Fort Worth, the sky is a brilliant palette of orange and pink.

Tears rush over Randy Hall's eyes.



Photos courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Passengers of Flight 293 are taken to a hangar at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Fla., after the Department of Defense-chartered Miami Air jet slid into the St. James River on May 3.



Navy and local emergency services personnel respond to the scene where the plane slid into the water.

"The sunrise Saturday morning was the most beautiful one I have ever seen," Hall says.

In the days after the crash, what happened, what could have happened and what could have been lost continues to sink in.

Randy Hall finds himself crying at times. Sometimes with his wife. Sometimes alone.

Flight 293 passenger Cheryl Bormann, a veteran death penalty defense attorney working on a case for a Guantanamo Bay

Detention Camp inmate, tells *The New York Times*: "Trauma is something I'm pretty accustomed to. But you don't realize it until it hits you."

"I sat on my bed and cried this morning in my hotel room."

Then there are the tears of a baby. The Helmses are back in Dublin, Ga., now, a small town of about 16,000 people some 60 miles southeast of Macon.

They find themselves getting up in the middle of the night to check on Wyatt. They

worry about every cry, every flinch.

More than anything, they will be mindful of what they have and what they could have lost.

This already was going to be a memorable Mother's Day for Katherine Helms. It's her first as a mom.

She will spend it in her hometown, with her own mom and her son, and she'll be able to tell the story of two flights from Cuba, both with happy endings.

MILITARY

Army officer receives 2nd Distinguished Service Cross

By RACHEL RILEY

The Fayetteville (N.C.) Observer

In March 2010, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jason W. Myers rushed into enemy fire to rescue two Afghan police officers.

A little more than a year later, in November of 2011, Myers repeatedly went into a building under enemy attack, surrounded by grenade blasts, to help rescue 15 hostages in Afghanistan.

About 3:15 p.m. on Nov. 10, 2011, Myers' unit noticed insurgent weapon fire in a civilian compound distribution center, a Special Forces major said at a ceremony Wednesday at which Myers was presented with his second Distinguished Service Cross in the John F. Kennedy auditorium at Fort Bragg, N.C.

The Distinguished Service Cross is the nation's second-highest military award for valor.

In an interview after Wednesday's ceremony, Myers said his team initially wasn't sure if the enemy fire was a baited ambush to draw the troops out.

After realizing the attack was focused on the district center, Myers' team notified partner forces — the Afghan uniformed police, a special tactics team and the Afghan National Army Commando Corps, the major said.

Myers' team was directed to move toward the west gate of the center to link up with the rest of the group and immediately was

under attack by enemy fire.

Several grenade explosions later and after entering buildings at the compound, Myers' commanders learned about the hostages from a wounded Afghan district chief of police, who said a couple of insurgents were wearing suicide vests, the major said.

'I've always been fortunate. I've always been surrounded by the best officers and the best [NCOs] in the Army.'

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jason W. Myers
U.S. Army

After nine hostages were rescued and Myers received medical attention, he returned to the district center compound to provide a last-minute help rescue the remaining government officials, the major said.

After that rescue, he volunteered to further assist with clearing the building, where a booby trap was triggered, the major said.

Myers helped evacuate six partner force soldiers injured in that explosion.

"He entered the main building three total times in order to clear it of all enemy fires," said Lt. Gen. Francis Beaudette, commander

of the U.S. Army Special Operations Command. "All of this was done while sustaining shrapnel injuries and constantly under active enemy fire."

Surrounded by Myers' friends, family and fellow special operations soldiers, Beaudette presented Myers his second Distinguished Service Cross for his role in helping rescue 15 hostages while deployed to Afghanistan in 2011.

Myers' actions from the 2010 and 2011 attacks have made him the only current active-duty soldier to receive multiple Distinguished Service Cross awards, Beaudette said.

Myers received his first Distinguished Service Cross in 2012 for his role in rescuing the two Afghan police officers while under enemy fire on March 27, 2010.

Beaudette recognized Myers' family for instilling values in him prior to his military training and said Myers' actions exceed the standard level of performance.

Beaudette said if Myers were to tell what happened, he would talk about his teammates' actions.

In an interview with The Fayetteville Observer after the ceremony, Myers said the attack was during month eight of an 11-month deployment.

"I've always been fortunate," Myers said when asked about receiving the Distinguished Service Cross Award twice. "I've always been surrounded by the best of



DVIDS screen shot

U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jason W. Myers, right, receives his second Distinguished Service Cross from Lt. Gen. Francis Beaudette, commander of the U.S. Army Special Operations Command, at Fort Bragg, N.C., on Wednesday.

officers and the best [noncommissioned officers] in the Army, and with multiple deployments to the same area, we knew the locals. We had a lot of rapport and these long-standing relationships with some of these people, so there was a lot of trust and history between us, the locals and the partner forces."

His actions on Nov. 10-11, 2011, assisted with the rescue of 15 hostages, including three district subgovernors and one district chief of police, the Special Forces major said at Wednesday's ceremony.

Five Americans were wounded, 11 Afghans were wounded and three Afghan police were killed in the incident, the major said.

Beaudette said that 49 years ago, 56 Green Berets sat in the same JFK auditorium where Myers was recognized Wednesday and were told about "a risky

plan" to rescue American prisoners of war in Vietnam. Some of the soldiers walked out the back door and chose not to rise to the level of standard of expectation of extreme danger that the nation required of them, Beaudette said.

He said Myers' actions are similar to those of the men who walked to the front of the auditorium and signed their name next to a dotted line to go on the mission.

"Jason has demonstrated on not just these two [Distinguished Service Cross] occasions but each and every day he rolls out of the team room that he has the same fearless courage and unending character of these men," Beaudette said. "He's going to continue to inspire others to protect the nation without fail, without fear and without equal, and we are incredibly proud of him today."

Medal: Townsend commends Eslinger as leader taking care of his soldiers

FROM FRONT PAGE

Eslinger's actions were among those reviewed since 2017 when then-Defense Secretary Jim Mattis called for the reevaluation of possibly underrecognized acts of valor since Sept. 11, 2001.

In 2008, Eslinger was a platoon leader in Company C, 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division. He was pulling security on a patrol gathering intelligence.

Now attending the Command and General Staff Officer College, he was surprised to learn of the upgrade, he said in the Army statement.

He has long felt that even the Silver Star Medal was more recognition than his actions deserved, telling Stars and Stripes in 2009 that he was just doing what any other leader would do when faced with the same situation.

He saw a hand come up over a garden wall with a projectile in it and he knew it was a grenade so he acted without any forethought, he said at the time.

"It was complete adrenaline and focus on covering that thing so that if it went off, it wasn't going to hit my [radio telephone operator] or my medic or my [squad automatic weapon] gunner," he said.

In his speech, Townsend refuted the notion that it was an inspiring act, calling Eslinger an ordinary person.

"Nick, your reaction to move toward the grenade that day rather than away from it was more than just your training," he was quoted as saying. "I think that is hard-wired into your DNA as a leader. I think it is hard-wired in your thought to take care of your soldiers."

Eslinger felt leading soldiers in combat was the greatest experience of his life, Townsend said, quoting an address Eslinger gave after receiving an award for com-

bat heroism from the West Point Association of Graduates in 2009.

"The greatest achievement was to bring all of them home safely," Townsend said, finishing the quote.

Eslinger's wife, his two oldest daughters and his father were at the ceremony.

His father, Bruce Behnke, said his son has put others first throughout his life.

"Even in high school and junior high, when he was playing football, he would always take the hit for the team," Behnke said.

Although it's been 10 years, it feels much more recent, Eslinger

said in the Army statement last week. "I remember the way the grenade felt in my hand," he said. "I remember the taste of dust after the explosion. I remember the way I felt when they told me there were zero casualties. That was a good feeling."

After the blast, troops pursued the attacker and eventually caught up to him.

"I remember the look on [the enemy combatant's] face when I was still alive and we captured him," he said. "That was a good feeling."

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MILITARY

Venezuela's Guaido asks for relations with the US military

By SCOTT SMITH
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela — Venezuelan opposition leader Juan Guaido on Saturday said he's instructed his political envoy in Washington to immediately open relations with the U.S. military in a bid to bring more pressure on President Nicolas Maduro to resign.

The leader said he's asked Carlos Vecchio, who the U.S. recognizes as Venezuela's ambassador, to open "direct communications" toward possible military "coordination."

The remarks, at the end of a rally Saturday, mark one of his strongest public pleas yet for greater U.S. involvement in the country's fast-escalating crisis. While Guaido has repeatedly echoed comments from the Trump administration that "all options" are on the table for removing Maduro, few in the U.S.

or Venezuelan opposition view military action as likely nor has the White House indicated it's seriously considering such a move.

But with tensions between the U.S. and Maduro running high, the saber rattling is getting louder.

As head of the embattled National Assembly, Guaido launched a campaign in January to oust Maduro, gaining the support of the U.S. and more than 50 nations.

He announced Saturday a forthcoming meeting with U.S. military officials and said that new actions taken by the opposition will seek to "achieve the necessary pressure" to put an end to the Bolivarian revolution launched 20 years ago by the late socialist President Hugo Chavez.

Guaido has said that as Venezuela's rightful leader he reserves the right to invite foreign military actions in the same way independence hero Simon Bolivar hired



A protester with his mouth covered in strands representing Venezuela's national colors waits for the arrival of opposition leader Juan Guaido in Caracas, Venezuela, on Saturday.

5,000 British mercenaries to liberate South America from Spain. He says any such help should be considered "cooperation," instead of intervention, something he has accused Maduro of allowing in the form of military and intelligence support from allies Cuba and Russia.

Meanwhile, noticeably diminished crowds at opposition protests reflected a growing fear and demoralization that has permeated Guaido's ranks of supporters after he led a failed military uprising on April 30.

Iran tells Trump: Don't wait for us to pick up the phone

Bloomberg

Iranian officials are rebuffing President Donald Trump's suggestion that they call him to try to defuse frictions as the U.S. ratchets up its actions against Tehran.

Several top Iranian aides and lawmakers predicted Sunday that the current tensions wouldn't lead to war, calling the U.S. deployment of an aircraft carrier, warship, bomber jets and missile defenses to the Middle East a propaganda stunt.

Antagonism between the countries, already high, has worsened this month since Trump eliminated exceptions to U.S. sanctions on Iranian oil. The Islamic Republic responded by threatening to scale back its obligations under the 2015 nuclear deal.

"Trump has not only shown that he has no respect for the signature of the previous U.S. government but that he's willing to violate UN Security Council resolutions and other international agreements," said Kamal Kharazi, the head of a council that advises Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, according to the Islamic Students' News Agency.

Hours earlier, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo repeated Trump's offer to chat to try to sort out differences. The U.S. has

claimed, with no details, that Iran has been mobilizing proxies in Iraq and Syria to attack its forces, and its new deployments have stirred talk of war.

"The Americans know that no other war will bring about their defeat to such an extent and that's why there won't be a war, because war is not part of the U.S. strategy," Heshmatollah Falahatpishe, the head of Iran's parliamentary commission for national security and foreign affairs, said in a speech before lawmakers, according to ISNA.

"Nobody is going to call Trump, and eventually the Americans will be forced to raise the issue of negotiations with Iran in a serious way," he added.

Trump has made confronting Iran the linchpin of his Middle East policy, and his withdrawal from the nuclear deal and reimposition of sanctions has pounded the Islamic Republic's economy.

Tehran responded to the U.S. removal of sanctions waivers and the new military deployments by threatening to stop abiding by the nuclear deal's limitations on uranium enrichment if Europe doesn't remove obstacles to foreign investment into Iran and ease the flow of Iranian oil within 60 days.

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NATION

Seized N. Korean cargo ship arrives in American Samoa

By FILI SAGAPOLUTELE
Associated Press

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa — A North Korean cargo ship seized by the U.S. because of suspicion it was used to violate international sanctions arrived Saturday at the capital of this American territory, where it will undergo inspections.

The *Wise Honest* was slowly towed to the port of Pago Pago and docked at the main docking section of the port.

The trip from Indonesia took about three weeks. American Samoa in the South Pacific was chosen because of "its central strategic location," U.S. Coast Guard public affairs officer Amanda Wyrick said.

"We also have a good strong relationship and partnership with the American Samoan government," Wyrick said. "With that being said, we also already have the resources that are able to

ensure the security of the vessel but most importantly the Port of Pago Pago."

The ship was detained in April 2018 as it traveled toward Indonesia. Justice Department officials announced Thursday that the U.S. had seized the ship.

Asked how long the ship will be in the territory, Wyrick said the U.S. Department of Justice is "leading the investigation so they will be conducting that. Upon the conclusion of the investigation, the ship will be moved."

The next destination is unknown, she said.

"I do know that Justice Department is going to do the investigation as fast as they can," Wyrick added.

"We have a marine and safety security team here from Honolulu," Wyrick said. "We're conducting random patrols, also conducting inspection of the vessel and the Port of Pago Pago, keeping an eye on things such as



FILI SAGAPOLUTELE/AP

The North Korean cargo ship *Wise Honest* is towed into the Port of Pago Pago, American Samoa, on Saturday.

security breaches or vandalism of the ship itself."

Officials are also making sure the port is protected, she said.

"We, especially in the Coast Guard, understand the importance of the port. It's a lifeline in getting goods to the islands," Wyrick said.

"So we want to make sure that we're doing everything we can to make sure that there's absolutely no disruption to the flow of com-

merce coming in and out."

The U.S. government dispatched an inspection team to the ship before it docked in Pago Pago, she said.

Wyrick noted there was an inspection conducted before leaving Indonesia and, because the ship has been at sea for three weeks, "it's subject to the elements."

"The inspection of the ship before entering the harbor is to make sure the structure integrity

of the boat is still intact.

"In that way, once we get the thumb's up, and the green light, and the inspectors deem it safe, then it will enter the port," Wyrick said.

U.S. officials made the announcement of the ship's seizure hours after North Korea fired two suspected short-range missiles toward the sea, the second weapons launch in five days.

Man who reported Texas girl missing is arrested

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Trained dogs detected the scent of human decomposition in the vehicle of a man arrested in connection with the disappearance of a 4-year-old Texas girl, according to a prosecutor.

Derion Vence, who had lived with Maleah Davis and her mother, remained jailed Sunday on \$1 million bond after being charged with tampering with evidence, specifically a human corpse. His next court appearance is set for Monday.

Houston police said investigators have not found Maleah Davis and the investigation is continuing. Authorities have declined to say whether they believe Vence killed Maleah. But prosecutors said in court documents filed Saturday that Vence

could face additional charges, including murder.

Vence, 26, told police that men in a pickup truck abducted him, Maleah and his 2-year-old son before freeing him and the boy.

Sugar Land, Texas, police, who initially interviewed him, said his story kept changing and didn't add up. Houston police said Saturday that some of his claims were false.

Vence reported that his silver Nissan Altima was taken in the abduction, but surveillance video showed that vehicle was



Davis



Vence

used to drop Vence off later at a hospital, where he first reported the abduction, police said.

"His story turned out not to be the case, including the fact that there was that blood evidence in the apartment linked to Maleah," Smith said.

He said authorities have not found the girl and the investigation is continuing.

The police statement said Vence was observed carrying a full laundry basket from the apartment. That basket and a gas can were later found in the trunk of the

Nissan.

Maleah's mother, Brittany Bowens, said through a spokesman that Vence is her former fiancé. Bowens appeared outside her apartment Friday as Quanell X, a local civil rights activist, addressed reporters on her behalf.

Quanell X said that Vence had abused Maleah and that Bowens believes Vence harmed the girl.

Police have described Vence as Maleah's stepfather. But Quanell X said that Vence and Bowens were recently in a fight and she broke off their engagement.

Child Protective Services removed Maleah and her brothers from the home Vence and Bowens shared in August after the girl suffered a head wound.

States file price-fixing suit against generic drug makers

Associated Press

BOSTON — Attorneys general from more than 40 states are alleging the nation's largest generic drug manufacturers conspired to artificially inflate and manipulate prices for more than 100 generic drugs, including treatments for diabetes, cancer, arthritis and other medical conditions.

The lawsuit, filed in federal court in Connecticut on Friday, also names 15 individual senior executives responsible for sales, marketing and pricing.

Connecticut Attorney General William Tong, a Democrat, said

“We have hard evidence that shows the generic drug industry perpetrated a multibillion-dollar fraud on the American people.”

William Tong
Connecticut attorney general

investigators obtained evidence implicating 20 firms.

"We have hard evidence that shows the generic drug industry perpetrated a multibillion-dollar fraud on the American people,"

Tong said. "We have emails, text messages, telephone records and former company insiders that we believe will prove a multiyear conspiracy to fix prices and divide market share for huge num-

bers of generic drugs."

The new court suit was the second that has been filed in the investigation. The first, filed in 2016, named 18 corporate defendants and two individual defendants. Two former drug company executives entered into settlement agreements and are cooperating with the attorneys general in the investigation.

A spokesman for one of the companies named in the suit, Teva Pharmaceuticals USA Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Israeli-based Teva Pharmaceuticals Industries Ltd, said Teva

hasn't engaged in any conduct that would lead to civil or criminal liability.

"The allegations in this new complaint, and in the litigation more generally, are just that — allegations," Kelley Dougherty, a Teva vice president, said in a statement Saturday. "The company delivers high-quality medicines to patients around the world and is committed to complying with all applicable laws and regulations in doing so."

The suit was filed by 43 states and Puerto Rico, with Connecticut taking the lead in the probe.

NATION

US awaits China's retaliation over trade tariffs

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. is awaiting retaliation from China over increased tariffs after talks in Washington ended without a deal on trade, the president's chief economic adviser said Sunday.

"The expected countermeasures have not yet materialized. We may know more today or even this evening or tomorrow," Larry Kudlow told "Fox News Sunday."

Kudlow also said President Donald Trump's plan to raise U.S. tariffs on Chinese goods across the board could take months to take effect.

"Call it a couple of months. Call it three months. I don't know. That will take some time and then, of course, the president's going to have to make the final decision on

'The expected countermeasures have not yet materialized. We may know more today or even this evening or tomorrow.'

Larry Kudlow

President Donald Trump's chief economic adviser

that," Kudlow said.

The United States began raising tariffs on \$200 billion in Chinese imports from 10% to 25% on Friday after American officials accused Beijing of backtracking on commitments made in earlier rounds of negotiations.

Talks in Washington broke off on Friday without a deal on trade, but both sides have

indicated that future talks are likely.

"I think that China felt they were being beaten so badly in the recent negotiation that they may as well wait around for the next election, 2020, to see if they could get lucky & have a Democrat win," Trump tweeted Saturday.

Beijing retaliated for previous tariff increases by raising duties on \$110 billion of

American imports. And officials have targeted American companies operating in China by slowing customs clearance and stepping up regulatory scrutiny.

Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., told ABC's "This Week" on Sunday that he advised the president to finalize a trade deal with China soon "because the longer we're involved in a tariff battle or a trade war, the better chance there is that we could actually enter into a recession because of it."

The two countries are sparring over U.S. allegations that China steals technology and pressures American companies into handing over trade secrets, part of an aggressive campaign to turn Chinese companies into world leaders in robotics, electric cars and other advanced industries.

Activists give jailed moms gift for Mother's Day: bail

By TERRY TANG

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Paz Lopez, 42, was set to spend Mother's Day behind bars. The mother of six had been locked up in a Phoenix jail for the past month on forgery and other charges. She couldn't post her \$2,050 bail.

But on Thursday night, she walked out and into a car waiting to give her a ride home, thanks to a drive to bail out moms so they can spend Mother's Day with their kids. In a tearful video made immediately after her release, Lopez said it was a privilege that she would now get to see her children. She welled up when speaking about the coming birth of her first grandchild.

"There's just no greater feeling than being a mother," Lopez said. "I'm grateful for ... you to have me be able to spend the day with them and be able to see my grandchild be born."

Lopez had her bail covered by Living United for Change in Arizona, or LUCHA, a social and racial justice group. The organization said they were inspired to do this for a second year by an initiative known as "Black Mamas Bail Out," which is posting bail for dozens of mothers of color for the third straight year.

The effort is organized by the National Bail Out collective, a coalition of various grassroots groups, attorneys and activists nationwide. The campaign hoped to bail out more than 100 women in 35 cities in time for Mother's Day. The objective is not just to reunite families but to push for change in the cash bail system.

Critics contend the nation's courts are unfairly punishing poor defendants by setting high bail for low-level crimes that causes them to languish in jail for months, separating them from their jobs and families. In some cases, they remain locked up until their case is dismissed or they take a guilty plea just so they can get out of jail, albeit with a criminal record.

There has been a national push to reform bail by advocates who

say incarceration should depend on a suspect's risk to public safety, not the ability to pay.

Mary Hooks, co-director of Atlanta-based Southern On New Ground, came up with the idea in 2016. She joined with Law for Black Lives, a female-led network

'This notion you're in jail because you've done something horrible — we have to remind ourselves we have a Constitution that says, "Innocent until proven guilty."'

Mary Hooks
co-director of
Southern On New
Ground

'Barbecue Becky' or anyone else can call the police on someone and you can get arrested instantly for barbecuing," Hooks said, referring to the white woman who called police on two black men using a grill in an Oakland, Calif., park. The men were not arrested. "This notion you're in jail because you've done something horrible — we have to remind ourselves we have a Constitution that says, 'Innocent until proven guilty.'"

Jeymesha Jordan, of Oakland, said she would have faced another 10 months in jail if she hadn't been rescued by a bailout two days before last Mother's Day by the Oakland advocacy organization Essie Justice Group. Jordan, who declined to say what she was arrested for, faced a \$450,000 bail. She had no way of paying even a fraction of that on her own



PHOTOS BY ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

Protesters gather in front of Maricopa County attorney Bill Montgomery's office in Phoenix on Thursday in an event sponsored by Living United for Change in Arizona. The organization provided bail money for women being held in jail so they could be with their families for Mother's Day.



Annette Alvarez, middle, joins the protest.

or with a bail bondsman.

"I would have just sat in custody till my case was over," Jordan said. She was in jail for three months. In that time, her son, 5, lost his first tooth and learned how to tie his shoes.

Organizations choose who to assist based on referrals from attorneys and other activists. They don't take into account whether a woman is accused of a violent or nonviolent crime. According to the collective's organizers,

the mothers they help show up at court at "high rates," but the majority of the money they've handed out for bail hasn't been returned.

LUCHA, the Phoenix group, plans to fund as many bail releases as possible with the \$9,000 they have raised. Organizer Nicole Hale said they will offer mothers additional support including court date reminders and rides.

"We don't just hand someone a piece of paper and say, 'Good luck,'

They don't have to go through the system alone," Hale said.

Several studies suggest that bail amounts are set sometimes as much as three times higher for people of color, said Shima Baughman, a criminal law professor at the University of Utah College of Law. Even a \$200 bail for a misdemeanor crime can be beyond what's in a person's bank account.

According to a 2018 report from the nonpartisan Prison Policy Initiative, roughly 2.9 million women are jailed in the U.S. every year. An estimated 80% are either pregnant or have children.

Women of color are even more heavily affected, especially if they are working mothers who likely earn lower salaries, according to Baughman. A few days in jail can lead to the loss of a job or child custody.

"When women are the ones that bear most of the burdens in the family, their kids are the ones that are going to suffer," Baughman said. "Because in many families women are responsible for working outside the home and also for child care, they can face dire circumstances with their children when they are forced to serve even a couple of nights in jail."

NATION

Trump: Voters don't care about tax returns

By ANDREW TAYLOR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump is scoffing at Democrats' attempts to pry loose his tax returns, saying his refusal to release the records as a candidate didn't hurt him in 2016 and voters "didn't care" about the issue.

A leading House Democrat has issued subpoenas for six years of Trump's tax documents and given Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and IRS Commissioner Chas Rettig a deadline of next Friday to deliver them.

Trump has privately made clear he has no intention of turning over the much-coveted material. He is the first president since Watergate to decline to make his returns public, often claiming that he would release them if he were not under audit.

The subpoenas came from Rep. Richard Neal, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, on Friday, days after Mnuchin refused to comply with demands to turn over Trump's returns. Mnuchin said the committee's request "lacks a legitimate legislative purpose," as Supreme Court precedent requires.

Neal, D-Mass., reminded the two Trump appointees in a letter that federal law states that the IRS "shall furnish" the tax returns of any individual upon the request

of the chairmen of Congress' tax-writing committees and that his committee "has never been denied" a request.

Trump tweeted on Saturday that he won in 2016 "partially based on no Tax Returns while I am under audit (which I still am), and the voters didn't care. Now the Radical Left Democrats want to again relitigate this matter. Make it a part of the 2020 Election!"

The White House and the Democratic-controlled House are battling over investigations into Trump, and the administration has refused to comply with subpoenas for the unredacted report by special counsel Robert Mueller and documents related to the testimony by former White House counsel Donald McGahn.

If Mnuchin and Rettig fail to heed the latest demand from Neal, he is likely to sue in federal court.

Neal, who first demanded access to Trump's tax returns in early April, maintains that the committee is looking into the effectiveness of IRS mandatory audits of tax returns of all sitting presidents — a way to justify his claim that the committee has a potential legislative purpose. Democrats are confident in their legal justification and say Trump is stalling in an attempt to delay the issue beyond the 2020 election.



MANUEL BALCE CENTA/AP

President Donald Trump, shown speaking in the East Room of the White House on Friday, says voters don't care about his refusal to make his tax returns public.

In rejecting Neal's request, Mnuchin said he relied on the advice of the Justice Department. He concluded that the Treasury Department is "not authorized to disclose the requested returns and return information."

Mnuchin has also said that Neal's request had the potential to make private tax returns a political matter.

Republicans say Neal is using the arcane 1924 law that empowers him to obtain any individual's

tax filing to play politics with Trump.

Democrats also want to probe into Trump's business dealings, particularly his business relationships with foreigners and to see to whom he owes money.

Group raised over \$20M to build wall. Now donors want answers.

By MICHAEL BRICE-ADLER

The Washington Post

A December fundraising campaign brought in more than \$20 million over the course of a few weeks, its thousands of donors united by a common goal: the construction of a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border, oft-promised by President Donald Trump.

Some four months later, a contingent of the supporters is ready to see what their money has built.

The now-famous border wall GoFundMe was conceived by Purple Heart recipient Brian Kolfage, who wrote at the time he was upset by "too many illegals ... taking advantage of the United States taxpayers," and the "political games from both parties" when it came to border security. Kolfage, a triple amputee, pressed onward despite falling short of his \$1 billion goal — launching a non-profit to build portions of the wall on private land for a "fraction of what it costs the government."

While the majority of donors continue to believe in Kolfage's efforts, the nonprofit's clandestine operations and assurances of progress are insufficient for others. Some have taken to social media, seeking photos, videos — anything — for evidence they aren't being misled.

"I am very disappointed in you Brian Kolfage, where are

'I am very disappointed in you Brian Kolfage, where are the progress photographs?' one woman posted to the We Build The Wall Facebook page.

the progress photographs?" one woman posted to the We Build The Wall Facebook page.

"Quit talking about it and do it," another commented.

"I've been away for FIVE months," one person tweeted in April. "When's the groundbreaking?"

Reporting on the apparent lack of progress on the private wall, published early Friday by the Daily Beast, drew criticism from Kolfage. The veteran called out the story's author, Will Sommer, who indicated he's repeatedly asked Kolfage for proof they were close to a groundbreaking.

"Omg this is PERFECT timing by the liberal rag news site. They are about to look more stupid than @hillaryclinton on election night 2016!" Kolfage wrote. "I guaranteed we would build the wall ... and I'll leave it at that!"

While the nonprofit has floated various groundbreaking dates in the past, it's not exactly clear when, or if, construction will begin.

"We should be turning dirt on this thing by May 1, June 1 at the

latest, according to our experts," Kolfage told Politico in February. In a March 21 interview with American Family Radio, however, the veteran asserted they were going to "start breaking ground" in April.

In the interview, Kolfage said his nonprofit had identified eight locations to build along the border but failed to name them, stating that his efforts could be thwarted by liberals if they were revealed.

"I wish I could name where it's at, but we can't name it because of the ACLU, these other liberal groups who want to sue us and impede our progress," he said. "But it's actually happening, the process is happening ... the project is moving forward."

He continued, "But as soon as we start breaking ground, we'll be putting that information out there to show the American people what they're doing."

Kolfage has previously indicated that We Build The Wall Inc. seeks to develop segments of the wall on private property, which he told The Washington Post in January would cost \$2 million to

\$3 million per mile. His GoFundMe says he's visited the border to scope out potential sites and negotiate with private landowners. Kolfage has also enlisted the help of several high-profile politicians, among them former White House chief strategist Stephen Bannon and Kris Kobach, the former secretary of state for Kansas, who sit on the group's advisory board.

In January, Kobach told The New York Times they'd hopefully be breaking ground "within weeks."

Some critics noted Kolfage was accused of shady behavior in the past, including allegations of misusing funds he raised. NBC and BuzzFeed investigations earlier this year alleged that Kolfage peddled false articles and conspiracy theories with the intent of harvesting reader email addresses. The purported scheme would draw people back to his websites and Facebook pages, generating hundreds of thousands in advertising revenue, BuzzFeed reported.

Facebook removed several of the pages he operated last year, according to NBC, in a purge of pages that were used to "drive traffic to their websites." In response, Kolfage created a new campaign, "Fight4FreeSpeech," which also accepts donations.

BuzzFeed looked into Kolfage's previous crowdfunding efforts, which included an initiative to

mentor wounded veterans at military hospitals — among them Walter Reed and Brooke Army Medical Center. He raised thousands for the project, according to BuzzFeed, but spokespersons for the medical facilities told the outlet they have no record of him working at the hospitals or donating money.

Asked about the story in January, Kolfage told The Post that BuzzFeed "100 percent lied" and had fabricated the investigation to slander him. He said the money was raised to cover his travel expenses, and that he only used them for that purpose.

On Friday, many supporters of Kolfage called the Daily Beast story fake news intended to stymie donations. We Build The Wall occasionally replied in agreement, reassuring commenters the wall was on its way.

"This is what we call FAKE NEWS," they wrote in a post. "We didn't stop anything and we are full steam ahead. The wall is being built."

As of Friday night, the group said they'll be breaking ground "shortly."

In a separate comment, one woman indicated she'd heard enough.

"Saying it doesn't get it done," she wrote late Friday. "Do it."

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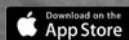
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WORLD

North, South Koreans find harmony

Singer from North,
violinist from South
perform together

By DAK KANG
AND HYUNG-JIN KIM
Associated Press

SHANGHAI — South Korean violinist Won Hyung Joon took the stage, nodded once to his North Korean soprano partner, and placed his instrument on his shoulder. With a flick of the conductor's wrist, she began to sing, and he began to bow — the beginning of a rare joint performance Sunday that they hope will bring the Koreas closer amid deadlocked nuclear diplomacy.

"Until today, I was thinking, will this really happen? Will it suddenly be canceled?" Won said. "Today was the day my dream finally came true."

Won, donning a white shirt, and Kim Song Mi, sporting a sparkling red dress, performed Antonin Dvorak's "Songs My Mother Taught Me" together with a Chinese orchestra at the Shanghai Oriental Art Center. After the last notes, they held hands and bowed to thunderous applause from the mostly Chinese audience.

Kim later reappeared in a traditional multicolored Korean dress to sing "Arirang," a Korean folk tune beloved in both countries.

The concert came three days after South Korea said North Korea fired two suspected short-range missiles toward the sea, the second such weapons test by Pyongyang in less than a week.

For both Won and Kim, it was their first concert with a musician from the other side of the Korean border, the world's most heavily fortified. They met several times last year in Beijing and agreed to perform together to promote peace on the Korean Peninsula.

"My heart is too full for words," Kim said in a dressing room after the concert, her first-ever interview with a foreign media outlet. "For the moment, at least, I feel like unification has come."

It's rare for musicians from both Koreas to perform together. Contact between the two sides is



South Korean violinist Won Hyung Joon and North Korean soprano Kim Song Mi perform at the Shanghai Oriental Arts Center in Shanghai on Sunday.

so restricted that North and South Koreans can't exchange phone calls, letter or emails without special government approval.

Last year saw an unusual wave of cross-border exchanges after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un abruptly agreed to begin talks over the future of his nuclear arsenal. A group of North Korean dancers and singers performed in South Korea during the Pyeongyang Winter Olympics, and South Korean K-pop stars later flew to Pyongyang and sang in the presence of Kim and his wife, Ri Sol Ju.

Both events were the first of their kind in over a decade.

But such exchanges are now becoming rare again as North Korea resumes provocative weapons tests, an apparent protest against stalled nuclear negotiations with the United States.

While Sunday's concert is unlikely to cause a diplomatic breakthrough, it could still "establish an environment" that could make it easier to improve ties between the Koreas, said Cho Han Bum, an analyst at Seoul's Korea Institute for National Unification.

Inspired by the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra, which was founded in 1999 to bring together Arab and Israeli musicians to promote mutual understanding, Won, 42, has been pushing for the establishment of an inter-Korean orchestra for nearly a decade, contacting both governments on numerous occasions.

But his push for a Korean orchestra performance had never been realized and was often scrapped at the last minute due to the delicate nature of ties between the Koreas.

This time, Won and Kim, 33, spent days together in Shanghai rehearsing and chatting, sharing meals, coffee and even a foot massage before the performance finally happened.

"I really felt then we were part of the same nation because we like the same foods and speak the same language," Kim said.

Sunday's performance appeared less difficult to achieve because it involved just one person from each Korea, not dozens of musicians required for an orchestra, and it happened in China — the North's major ally but

also the South's biggest trading partner.

Won said that the U.S. took notice and that he had talks with high-level State Department officials before the performance.

The Shanghai City Symphony Orchestra, the biggest amateur symphony orchestra in China, performed with the two Koreans. Kim and Won's performance was part of the orchestra's annual charity concert, "Love in the City, Pyongyang Shanghai Seoul," held to raise awareness for autistic children.

Won said he's hopeful he can continue to work together with Kim to organize larger concerts in cities across the world — in Pyongyang, Seoul or perhaps even Washington.

"Although today's performance was only for a short while, at least it's possible to come together to play music for this moment," Won said.

"I can't help but think maybe, just maybe, it'll bring more opportunities like this in the future."

Myanmar jet lands safely after landing gear fails

By AUNG NAING SOE
Associated Press

YANGON, Myanmar — A Myanmar National Airlines plane made an emergency landing at Mandalay International Airport on Sunday, using only its rear wheels after the front landing gear failed to deploy.

All 82 passengers and seven crewmembers aboard Flight UB103 from Yangon were declared safe after the Brazilian-made Embraer 190-LR tumbled down on its rear sets of wheels before the plane's nose tilted down to scrape the runway, sending off a shower of sparks as it slowed to a stop.

Kyaw San, a spokesman for the airport, said the pilot informed the control tower before landing that he was unable to pull down the nose wheels.

A statement on the airline's Facebook page explained that the plane's EICAS — Engine Indicating and Crew Alerting System — indicated a failure of the front landing gear to deploy. The pilot tried a backup emergency procedure to pull down the wheels but that was unsuccessful. The aircraft did two fly-bys past the tower for air controllers to check visually whether the wheels had deployed.

The captain followed emergency procedures to dump fuel to reduce the landing weight, and made a safe landing at 9:09 a.m., said the statement.

Video that apparently was shot by one of the passengers and posted online showed an urgent but orderly evacuation of the passengers and crew. Passengers were seen walking away from the plane across the airfield, several of them smiling.

Flight operations at the airport were temporarily suspended and allowed to resume after about two hours for smaller aircraft. The runways were expected to be reopened for use by larger Boeing and Airbus aircraft by late afternoon.

5 killed by insurgents in attack on luxury hotel in Pakistan

By ABDUL SATTAR
Associated Press

QUETTA, Pakistan — A Pakistani regional police chief said Sunday updated the death toll from an attack on a luxury hotel to five people, which he said did not include four gunmen killed by security forces.

A clearing operation was ongoing following Saturday night's assault on the Pearl Continental hotel in the southwestern coastal town of Gwadar, police chief Munir Ahmad Zia said. He

refused to share any further details, and no other government or military officials were available for comment.

In a statement early Sunday, Prime Minister Imran Khan called the attack an act of terrorism. He praised the "initial response by security guards and security forces" for preventing greater loss of life.

At least one hotel security guard was confirmed dead by the military Saturday, which said all hotel guests were safely evacuated.

It was unclear if the newly announced casualties were civilians, hotel guards or security forces.

Two senior security officials said Saturday that four attackers had been killed. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to speak to the media.

A Baluch separatist group, the Baluch Liberation Army, claimed responsibility Saturday for the attack, saying four of its fighters were involved.

The same separatist group in 2018 attacked a Chinese consulate in the major southern city of Karachi, triggering a shootout in which all three insurgents, two police officers and two civilians were killed.

China is helping Pakistan to build a modern port in Gwadar, 373 miles west of Karachi. The Pearl Continental hotel is located near the port.

Gwadar lies in the southwestern province of Baluchistan, the scene of a low-level insurgency

by separatists who demand a greater share of the province's natural gas and mineral resources. Pakistan says it has quelled the insurgency, but violence has continued.

The latest attack came weeks after Islamabad claimed that a group of militants crossed the border from neighboring Iran and killed 14 security officials when they were on their way to Gwadar in buses.

Pakistan at the time blamed a Baluch separatist group, Raji Aajoi Sangar, for the killings.

WORLD

Sri Lankan Catholics hold first Sunday Mass since attacks

Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — The Catholic Church in Sri Lanka held the first regular Sunday Mass since the Easter suicide bombings of churches and hotels killed more than 250 people.

Military forces and police armed with assault rifles patrolled the streets leading to churches and stood guard outside the compounds. Everyone entering was required to produce identity cards and was body searched.

Volunteers were stationed at the gates of churches to identify parishioners and look for suspicious individuals.

Parking was banned near the churches, and officials requested worshippers to bring along only minimum baggage.

Seven suicide bombers struck two Catholic churches and one

Protestant church and three luxury hotels on Easter Sunday. Islamic State claimed responsibility for the attacks, carried out by a local radicalized Muslim group.

Sunday services were canceled in the two subsequent weekends for fear of more attacks, leaving the faithful to hear Mass via live TV transmission from the Colombo residence of Archbishop Malcolm Ranjith.

Church authorities are also mulling reopening church-run schools on Tuesday if they can be satisfied with security.

President Maithripala Sirisena told The Associated Press last week that "99%" of the remaining suspects in the Easter attacks had been arrested and their explosive materials seized.

He also said that it was safe for tourists to return to the Indian Ocean island nation.



ERANGA JAYAWARDENA/AP

A Sri Lankan government soldier secures the premises of a Catholic church in Colombo as devotees leave after Mass on Sunday.

Police say two previously little-known radical Islamist groups — National Towheed Jamaat and Jammiyathul Millathu Ibrahim — conspired in the attacks. Official

sources said Zahran Hashim, a vitriolic preacher from the country's east, may have led the attackers and was one of the bombers who died.

Berliners celebrate airlift of 1948-49

By KIRSTEN GRIESHABER

Associated Press

BERLIN — Berliners on Sunday celebrated the 70th anniversary of the day the Soviets lifted their blockade strangling West Berlin in the post-World War II years with a big party at the former Tempelhof Airport in the German capital.

Among the invited guests of honor was U.S. pilot Gail Halvorsen, 98, who dropped hundreds of boxes of candy on tiny parachutes into West Berlin during the blockade. Halvorsen came to Berlin from Utah with his two daughters on Friday, the German news agency dpa reported.

On Saturday, a baseball field at Tempelhof Airport was named after him — the "Gail S. Halvorsen Park, Home of the Berlin Braves" — in honor of his helping Berliners during the Cold War.

Dressed in a military uniform, Halvorsen told Berlin Mayor Michael Mueller that "it's good to be home."

The airlift began on June 26, 1948, in an ambitious plan to feed and supply West Berlin after the Soviets — one of the four occupying powers of a divided Berlin after World War II — blockaded the city in an attempt to squeeze the U.S., Britain and France out



CHRISTOPH SODER, DPA/AP

Retired Col. Gail Halvorsen attends a ceremony Saturday to dedicate a ballfield in Berlin named in his honor during the 70th anniversary celebration of the Berlin Airlift of 1948-49, in which he took part.

of the enclave within Soviet-occupied eastern Germany.

Allied pilots flew a total of 278,000 flights to Berlin, carrying about 2.3 million tons of food, coal, medicine and other supplies.

On the operation's busiest day, April 16, 1949, about 1,400 planes carried in nearly 13,000 tons over 24 hours — an average of one plane touching down almost every minute.

On the ground in Berlin, ex-Luftwaffe mechanics were enlisted to help maintain aircraft, and some 19,000 Berliners, almost half of them women, worked around the clock for three months to build Tegel Airport, providing crucial relief for the British, French and American Tempelhof airfields.

Finally, on May 12, 1949, the

Soviets realized the blockade was futile and lifted their barricades. The airlift continued for several more months, however, as a precaution in case the Soviets changed their minds.

Halvorsen is probably the best known of the airlift pilots, thanks to an inadvertent propaganda coup born out of goodwill. Early in the airlift, he shared two sticks of gum with starving Berlin children and saw others sniffing the wrappers just for a hint of the flavor. Touched, he told the children to come back the next day, when he would drop them candy using handkerchiefs as parachutes.

He started doing it regularly, using his own candy ration. Soon, other pilots and crews joined in what would be dubbed "Operation Little Vittles."

Nationalists in Poland protest US interference

By VANESSA GERRA

Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland — Thousands of Polish nationalists marched to the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw on Saturday, protesting that the U.S. is putting pressure on Poland to compensate Jews whose families lost property during the Holocaust.

The protest took place amid a dramatic rise in anti-Semitic hate speech in public life in Poland and it appeared to be one of the largest anti-Jewish street demonstrations in recent times. It also comes as far-right groups are gaining popularity, pressuring the conservative government to move farther to the right.

Protesters, including far-right groups and their supporters, say the United States has no right to interfere in Polish affairs and that the U.S. government is putting "Jewish interests" over the interests of Poland.

Poland was a major victim of Nazi Germany during World War II, and those protesting say it is not fair to ask Poland to compensate Jewish victims when Poland has never received adequate compensation from Germany.

"Why should we have to pay money today when nobody gives us anything?" asked Kamil Wencwel, 22. "Americans only think about Jewish and not Polish interests."

Germany: 3 bodies with crossbow bolts found

BERLIN — German police said they are investigating the deaths of three people whose bodies were found with crossbow bolts in them in a hotel room in Bavaria.

German news agency dpa reported Sunday that employees of a hotel in the town of Passau found the bodies and two crossbows in the room.

Police said the three victims, who were found on Saturday, were a 53-year-old man and two women aged 33 and 30, all of them German citizens.

They said it is not clear what their relationship was, what happened inside the hotel room or how exactly the three died. Dpa reported that prosecutors have ordered an autopsy.

Pope OKs pilgrimages to Bosnian shrine

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis has given his OK to pilgrimages to a Bosnian shrine where young people said the Virgin Mary appeared to them, but the Vatican cautioned on Sunday that the Church still hasn't ruled on the authenticity of the phenomenon, which has drawn millions of Catholic believers and the curious to the site.

Vatican spokesman Alessandro Gisotti said in a written statement that "the Holy Father has ruled that it's possible to organize pilgrimages to Medjugorje."

Saudi forces kill 8 in mostly Shiite town

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Saudi Arabia's security forces killed eight alleged terrorists in a shootout in the predominantly Shiite eastern region of Qatif, a government statement issued late Saturday said.

The Interior Ministry said security forces launched a raid against a suspected militant hideout on the island of Tarut, off the coast of the kingdom's Eastern province, a restive region on the Persian Gulf where most of the country's oil reserves are located.

The statement described the group as a "terrorist cell" and accused them of planning to attack vital installations and security targets.

28 still remain on ship amid measles scare

WILLEMSTAD, Curacao — Authorities in Curacao announced Saturday that 17 crewmembers and 11 passengers must stay aboard a ship owned by the Church of Scientology that is under quarantine following a confirmed case of measles.

Dr. Izzy Gerstenbluth said the group is required to stay on the 440-foot Freewinds ship until Monday because they are still at risk of contracting measles after a female crewmember was confirmed to have the disease.

He said the remaining crewmembers and passengers — which totaled 318 — are free to leave the ship.

From The Associated Press

WIRED WORLD

Robotics students display their skills

Ramstein middle schoolers build Lego robots with space applications in mind

By BRIAN FERGUSON
Stars and Stripes

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — Autonomous robots built by seventh and eighth graders, some of whom have won Europe-wide acclaim in competitions, completed tabletop “space missions” in front of hundreds of spectators during an exhibition at Ramstein Middle School.

Over the current school year, students from 26 RMS teams built Lego robots to solve problems related to this year’s First Lego League theme, “Space — Into the Orbit.”

Each team devised a theoretical problem related to humans in space and then created a system to fix that problem. They demonstrated the results at an exhibit after school on Thursday.

“My main goal for our students is for them to learn how to think critically while using the engineering design process,” said Tynisa Young, robotics teacher at RMS. “When each student enters my class, the expectation is that they will be challenged, but will have fun while learning.”

The robotics program is part of the science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM, initiative that the Department of Defense Education Activity added to its curriculum a few years ago.

Young grew more interested in STEM when she attended the Research Science Institute at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She also took part in STEM training for teachers at the U.S. Naval Academy.

“These opportunities ignited my passion in STEM and allowed me to transfer what I learned ... to my classroom,” Young said.

Servicemembers from the



PHOTOS BY BRIAN FERGUSON/Stars and Stripes

Team REV3NGERS members Alec Eschenlauer, left, and Daniel Olson look on as their autonomous robot successfully completes a mission during the robotics and music exhibition at Ramstein Middle School in Germany on Friday.

435th Contingency Response Group at Ramstein are also helping the robotics students in the classroom by showing them how technology is used in the 21st century.

The 435th, a unit of about 750 personnel, provides a rapidly deployable force designed to assess and open air bases, enabling the standup of combat operations anywhere in Europe, according to an Air Force fact sheet.

“It’s a tough, tough, job with some long hours,” 435th CRG commander Col. Jason Terry said of the work his airmen do in deterring Russia and helping defend Europe. “When they come back from an event like this (exhibition), their morale is high and they are super-motivated. It brings meaning back into all the work that goes into it.”

RMS Principal Dan Petritz said he understands that several of his students will someday serve in the military. Having a close community partnership with the military, he said, helps teachers understand what skills the kids will need as adults.



Children cheer as an autonomous robot completes a mission during the table demonstration.

Petritz and Terry both signed documents signifying the partnership between the 435th CRG and the school during the exhibition.

“Every airman today is involved in engineering, science and technology,” Terry said. “We

have 20 judges (here today) and they have helped tutor (students) throughout the project.”

After the research projects were judged by 435th CRG servicemembers, top teams from the DODEA Europe First Lego League competition demonstrat-

ed their robots.

In March, teams competed in the league competition, which included 174 teams from 36 schools in seven European countries.

Team REV3NGERS — composed of eighth graders Alec Eschenlauer, Daniel Olson, Austin O’Brien and Sean Lester — won first place in sectionals and in the championships by completing the most table missions in 2½ minutes.

Earlier in the school year, RMS also competed in the First Lego League Rockenhäusen tournament as the only American team and placed fourth out of 14 teams.

“I am proud of what these middle school students have accomplished,” Young said. “Our students represent future innovators and I am thankful to have the support of my administration and military community to provide our students with access to STEM education that is comparable to their stateside peers.”

ferguson.brian@stripes.com



A young girl looks on as teams demonstrate their autonomous robots during the exhibition.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Streptomyces griseus named state microbe

NJ TRENTON — A micro-organism that played a role in treating tuberculosis is now officially recognized as the state microbe.

Gov. Phil Murphy signed a bill Friday giving the distinction to *Streptomyces griseus*.

The microbe was discovered in New Jersey soil in 1916.

In 1943, researchers from Rutgers University used the microbe to create the antibiotic streptomycin, and tuberculosis death rates in the U.S. plummeted.

Rutgers researcher Selman Waksman was awarded the 1952 Nobel Prize for Medicine for discovering the microbe and creating the antibiotic.

Reporter, 12, gives commencement speech

WV MORGANTOWN — A 12-year-old reporter who runs a newspaper in Pennsylvania delivered the commencement address at West Virginia University's Reed College of Media.

Hilde Kate Lysiak has run the Orange Street News since 2014 in Selinsgrove, 150 miles northwest of Philadelphia.

She first drew national attention in 2016 when she wrote about a suspected murder in Selinsgrove and ended up having to defend herself after some locals lashed out about a young girl covering violent crimes.

On Friday, Hilde joked that she was sure some in the crowd were wondering why the university couldn't "afford a full grown human" to give the speech. She went on to share lessons she's learned and told graduates to "stay laser focused on the truth."

Neil Armstrong-owned items sell at auction

TX DALLAS — Pieces from the Wright brothers' 1903 Flyer that Neil Armstrong took with him to the moon have sold for about \$890,000 at an auction of memorabilia that belonged to the astronaut.

They were among items Heritage Auctions offered Thursday that were owned by Armstrong, the first human to set foot on the moon. The largest American flag flown on the Apollo 11 lunar module sold for \$93,750.

Heritage is holding a series of auctions featuring items belonging to Armstrong, who died in 2012. Thursday's auction brought in more than \$2.3 million. The next auction will be in July.

Museum adding gun to WWII-era ship

MI MUSKEGON — A museum housed on a World War II-era warship in western Michigan is bringing a massive anti-aircraft gun aboard.

The USS LST 393 Veterans Museum in Muskegon is adding an 18,000-pound anti-aircraft cannon to its landing ship tank this summer.

The Bofors twin-barreled can-

THE CENSUS

3 The days a pet corn snake was missing before it was discovered in a neighbor's washing machine in Evanston, Ill. Police Officer Pedro Carrasco and Animal Control Warden Jason Pound took the reptile to the Chicago Exotics Animal Hospital. Carrasco said it was "peeking its head out of the washing machine" when they found it. Pound said it "smelled like Downy" after surviving the wash cycle. The snake is OK and was reunited with its owner, a 12-year-old boy.



NATI HARNIK/AP

Boots on the boundary

Work boots adorn fence posts in rural Peru, Neb., on Friday. The practice is one of the traditions of ranching.

non that was built to take down airplanes is currently being restored, the Muskegon Chronicle reported. The museum aims to have the gun lifted onto the ship ahead of its celebration of the 75th anniversary of D-Day on June 1-2.

The museum received the gun as a donation from a park district in Oak Forest, Ill., in 2018.

The warship was part of the Allied Forces' D-Day invasion in Normandy, France.

Sheriff: Stray voltage may have killed cows

WI ALMENA — Authorities in western Wisconsin are investigating whether stray electrical voltage contributed to the deaths of about two dozen cows on a farm near Almena.

Barron County Sheriff Chris Fitzgerald said in a news release that the cows died over the winter. He said all other animals on the farm were in good health and were moved to another location

until the stray voltage issue "can be looked into and corrected."

Fitzgerald cited brutal winter conditions and illness as other factors in the deaths. The sheriff said there appear to be no violations and the owners of the cows are cooperating with authorities.

Glacier park officials to capture 10 grizzlies

MT KALISPELL — Glacier National Park officials plan to capture and mark 10 female grizzly bears as part of an ongoing effort to monitor the population in the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem.

The Daily Inter Lake reported park officials announced Wednesday that the trapping efforts will continue through October at various spots in the Montana park.

The park estimates that 300 grizzly bears live in the park.

The park said visitors are prohibited from entering the closed bait stations and trap sites, which will be marked by warning signs.

Yellowstone National Park on May 5 announced similar plans to bait and trap grizzly bears through July.

Authorities record 70 stolen cars in 2 days

WA SEATTLE — Authorities said 70 cars were stolen over two days in three counties in northwestern Washington state.

KOMO-TV reported Thursday that thieves stole 44 cars in King County, 16 in Pierce County and 10 in Snohomish County during the two-day period.

Police: Pot cookies seized from student

MI CARO — Cookies containing marijuana were seized from a 16-year-old boy at Tuscola Technology Center.

The Tuscola County Sheriff's Office said Friday that one of the cookies was given Thursday by

the boy to a female student who didn't know the cookie was infused with marijuana.

Staff from the school took the cookies from the boy.

Dog runs away to visit day care pals

MO ST. ANN — Sometimes, a guy just wants to hang out with his buddies.

Such was apparently the case with Hugo, a dog who ran away from home earlier this month in north St. Louis County and went straight to his doggy day care.

KTVI-TV reported that Hugo is often boarded at Happy Tails Pet Hotel and Playland in St. Ann. Surveillance video provided to KTVI shows Hugo sprinting through the front door into the business and nosing up to another dog after making the trek from home, which was more than a mile.

From wire reports

FACES

Cameron salutes 'Endgame' for sinking 'Titanic'

Filmmaker James Cameron has no bad blood with the Avengers, even though "Endgame" has eclipsed "Titanic's" worldwide record and bumped the 1997 blockbuster to third place.

Cameron tweeted a note Wednesday to Marvel president Kevin Feige and its employees congratulating the company for its success. Cameron writes that an iceberg sank the real Titanic, but it took the Avengers to sink his "Titanic." The accompanying image shows the Titanic crashing into a massive Avengers logo.

The studio, he says, has shown that the movie industry is alive and well and bigger than ever.

"Avengers: Endgame" still has another Cameron film to conquer to get to the top. "Avatar" remains the highest-grossing film of all time with \$2.8 billion worldwide, not accounting for inflation. "Avengers: Endgame" has earned \$2.3 billion.



JORDAN STRAUSS/AP

James Cameron has no hard feelings over "Avengers: Endgame" bumping "Titanic" on the box-office list. But then again, his "Avatar" still holds the No. 1 spot.

Other news

■ Steven Spielberg's TV studio has cut ties with the CBS series "Bull" following accusations of sexual harassment against the show's lead actor, Michael Weatherly. Amblin Television will not work with the legal drama series moving forward, a rep for the company confirmed to Deadline and other outlets. Amblin had produced the first three seasons of "Bull," which was recently renewed by CBS for a fourth season. Amblin did not provide a reason for ending its relationship with the show. This development comes about six months after The New York Times reported actress Eliza Dushku came to a \$9.5 million settlement with CBS after claiming she was sexually harassed by Weatherly.

■ Rihanna is launching a new fashion label in a partnership with luxury goods conglomerate LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton. The pop star, born Robyn Rihanna Fenty, announced May 10 that a new line called Fenty will debut this spring and will be based in Paris. Rihanna, who already has the lines Fenty Beauty and Savage X Fenty, says in a statement that "designing a line like this with LVMH is an incredibly special moment for us... I couldn't imagine a better partner, both creatively and business-wise, and I'm ready for the world to see what we have built together."

From wire reports



Rebel with a cause

Wilson fought to keep 'The Hustle' rated PG-13

By JILL DOBSON
Associated Press

Rebel Wilson had to fight to make sure she and Anne Hathaway could make the same kind of risqué jokes their male counterparts do and not have their new film "The Hustle" get classified as R-rated.

Wilson, who is a producer and stars in the "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels" remake, fought back last year when the film received an R-rating. The rating was appealed, and "The Hustle" arrived in theaters May 10 as a PG-13 release.

"I felt like it was so unfair to force cuts of jokes from coming out of our two mouths when much ruder content was in male-driven PG-13 films," Wilson told The Associated Press. "When I put my arguments forth, analyzing other male-driven films like 'Anchorman' or last year's 'Jumanji' you can see that you know what's in our film is probably less than what's in some of those male-driven comedies."

Hathaway agreed, saying the entire culture of a film is more important than just casting actresses in starring roles.

"It's not enough to just put two women in the lead of the film. Then the culture that surrounds those two women told us, 'Oh you can't be funny in that way,'" Hathaway said.

"Even though there was a norm established...

in the world saying when men say these sort of things it's appropriate for teenagers. But when women say these sort of things, no that's unexpected that's too, that's too new. That's too different."

Wilson said the film is more than just a gender-flipped remake of the 1988 comedy starring Michael Caine and Steve Martin. It gave her and Hathaway a chance to tackle contemporary issues facing women.

"The idea just seems really justified right now ... with the #MeToo movement. This wasn't just a case of, 'Oh let's just gender flip 'Dirty Rotten Scoundrels'.'" Wilson said. "This was a case of, well oh yeah, it really does make sense that now women can get back at dirty rotten men who have been conning them for years."

Despite tackling systemic issues women face, both Hathaway and Wilson say "The Hustle" remains a broad comedy.

"I'm so happy right now to put something light out into the world, to put something out there that you can just laugh," Hathaway said. "Grab your favorite people and go and just get that warm feel good feeling."

"Sometimes ... movies have more serious messages and this definitely has a few subtle, you know, female empowerment messages, but not so subtle, I guess."

"But it's all within like the world of fun," Hathaway added.

Rebel Wilson, left, and Anne Hathaway felt that it was important they be able to make the same kinds of jokes as men in their "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels" remake, "The Hustle."

TAYLOR JEWELL, INVISION/AP



AP

Conan O'Brien has agreed to settle a lawsuit with a writer who says the talk-show host stole jokes from his Twitter feed.

O'Brien settles joke-theft suit

Associated Press

Conan O'Brien has made peace with a man who heckled him out from the crowd but the courts.

O'Brien and several co-defendants, including his writing staff, agreed May 9 to settle a 2015 lawsuit with California writer Robert Kaseberg, who alleged the talk-show host stole five jokes from his Twitter feed and blog for O'Brien's monologues on his TBS show, "Conan."

Attorneys for both sides filed documents in San Diego federal court announcing a deal had been reached about three weeks before a trial that would have seen O'Brien, his sidekick Andy Richter and other famous names called to the stand. Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

O'Brien explained when he settled in a column in Variety. He insisted that he and his staff had never heard of Kaseberg, his blog or his Twitter account before the lawsuit, and did not steal any jokes. But he did want "a farcical and expensive jury trial in federal court over five jokes that don't even make sense anymore."

"Short of murder, stealing material is the worst thing any comic can be accused of," O'Brien writes. "Had I, for one second, thought that any of my writers took material from someone else I would have fired that writer immediately, personally apologized, and made financial reparations."

Kaseberg released a statement saying he was happy with the friendly resolution.

"As a professional comedy writer, all I want to do is make people laugh and stand up for the things I believe in," Kaseberg said. "I am proud my case helped shed light on an issue facing all comedy writers and am happy to have been part of contributing legal precedent on the issue of protection afforded to jokes."

One of Kaseberg's jokes that resembled O'Brien's was about 2015 Super Bowl MVP Tom Brady giving the truck that goes with the title to Seahawks coach Pete Carroll, whose decisions many believe were the biggest reason Brady's New England Patriots won.

O'Brien said the similarity of this and the other lines in the lawsuit are the result of the same comedians landing on the same newsy joke, a phenomenon that has exploded with social media.



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OPINION

Trump is wrong to pardon war criminals

By WAITMAN WADE BEORN
Special to The Washington Post

In early 2003, as a cavalry officer, I stood in front of my scout platoon at dusk after a long day preparing to deploy to Iraq. I spoke with them about the law of war and how they should treat civilians when we got into theater.

It wasn't a long conversation, but I felt that giving clear guidance about what was acceptable — and not acceptable — was important. They should treat the civilians as they would neighbors, I told them. Soldiers take most seriously the things their leadership makes most serious.

On May 5, President Donald Trump pardoned the convicted war criminal Michael Behenna, who, while serving as an Army first lieutenant, had murdered Ali Mansur Mohamed, an unarmed, naked Iraqi, by shooting him in the head and chest. Making a spurious claim of self-defense, Behenna argued that Mansur threw a piece of concrete at him and "stood up like he's coming at me."

And so he neutralized this threat, a naked man, already released by the Army. Behenna was supposed to be returning Mansur home to his village.

A military court convicted Behenna of unpredicated murder. American soldiers testified against him. The military court of appeals and a review panel upheld that conviction, though he was paroled early, in 2014.

Even before pardoning Behenna, Trump demonstrated a disturbing flippancy toward war crimes. He has repeatedly expressed support for former Navy SEAL Edward Gallagher, another alleged war criminal. Gallagher's own men told investigators that he had, according to The New York Times, "seen a girl in flower-print hijab who was walking with other girls on the riverbank."

In 2017, Gallagher walked up to a 15-year-old prisoner of war and "stabbed the wounded teenager several times in the neck and once in the chest with his hunting knife, killing him." He then texted images of his "kill" to friends. Even in the tightest Special Operations community, fellow SEALs were horrified and repeatedly reported Gallagher's behavior until charges were brought. He faces court-martial at the end of the month. Trump tweeted that Gallagher would be given better conditions in confinement "in honor of his past service," an honor many would say he threw away long ago.

Trump has also publicly supported Maj. Matt Golsteyn, who is charged with premeditated murder in the shooting of an unarmed man and the burning of his body in Afghanistan. "I will be reviewing the case of a 'U.S. Military hero,'" the president tweeted.

In at least three instances, then, our commander in chief appears to have preferred to overlook serious war crimes in favor of a warped notion of patriotism and heroism. Trump subscribes to a "bad things happen in war" mentality — odd for a man who actively avoided military service.

This attitude is incredibly dangerous. It doesn't just undermine the enforcement of military justice; it also sends a message to our armed forces about just what kind of conduct the United States tolerates seriously.

In my book "Marching Into Darkness," I wrote about the German army's participation in the Holocaust at the small-unit level. One conclusion was that, even given the premeditated, racist and highly ideologized environment of the Wehrmacht, the culture of each unit and the institutional leadership most directly influenced whether war crimes were committed. Murderous leaders led murderous units, I found.



SUE OROCKI/AP

A military court convicted former Army 1st Lt. Michael Behenna of unpredicated murder. American soldiers testified against him. Behenna was pardoned last Monday by President Donald Trump.

Fortunately, the U.S. military does not exist in this kind of ethical quagmire. Compared with our opponents in the modern age, we have taken much more care to prosecute warfare in accordance with the laws of war. We have systems of military education that highlight our values and the law of armed conflict.

And we have a military justice system that, while not perfect, prosecutes and condemns those servicemembers who commit atrocities. In short, we have a foundation of military ethics that our combat leaders can stand on.

But what happens when that ethical foundation erodes or crumbles?

There are things we can learn from the German military and the Holocaust that are relevant today — without arguing that we are Nazis.

One lesson is the influence of an institution's culture on criminal behavior during wartime. The German state intentionally created such a culture (another important distinction from the current situation). Before a German soldier set foot in the Soviet Union, he received several unmistakable clues about what behavior would be acceptable.

The Commissar Order explicitly called for the summary execution of all Red Army political officers, an act that violated all laws of war, including those that Germany was party to.

Also, the guidelines for German troops, disseminated the day before the invasion, stated that "this war demands ruthless and aggressive action against Bolshevik agitators, snipers, saboteurs, and Jews and tireless elimination of any active or passive resistance." "Passive resistance" would be interpreted literally.

Last, and most striking in light of Trump's pardon of Behenna, was the Jurisdiction Order. Issued in May 1941 directly from Adolf Hitler, it informed troops that "for offenses committed by members of the Wehrmacht and its employees against enemy civilians, prosecution is not compulsory, not even if the offense is at the same time a military crime or violation." Soldiers were literally told that they would not be tried for behavior that would be a crime anywhere else in Europe.

The Wehrmacht proceeded to commit some of the worst atrocities in the history of modern warfare on a scale that obviously dwarfs anything we have seen in Iraq or Afghanistan.

But the underlying lessons remain valid. Murderous leaders led murderous units.



SARAH L. VOISIN/The Washington Post

"I will be reviewing the case of a 'U.S. Military hero,'" Trump has tweeted of Maj. Matt Golsteyn, above, a former Special Forces officer in Afghanistan who has been charged with premeditated murder.

Soldiers took their cues from the guidance they were given and the examples they were shown. They were often more likely to commit war crimes because of their commanders' signaling than because of Nazi ideology. (In my research on the Wehrmacht, I also discovered the corollary to be true: Leaders opposed to criminality led units that did not commit crimes.)

Trump's championing of war criminals as brave patriots who are simply victims of political correctness seems to push for a climate that condones unethical and criminal behavior. He appears to write off war crimes as the cost of doing business.

If this is the example our military is given, we should not be surprised to see more Behennas and Gallaghers. Referring to the infamous Army "kill team" in Afghanistan in 2009-10, a senior military official noted the importance of the brigade commander's aggressive guidance, which rejected any attempt to "win hearts and minds." The official observed that "clearly, the guys who were pulling the trigger are the proximate cause of the crime, but the culture itself is the enabler."

No reasonable person would claim that Trump is Hitler or that the U.S. military is the German army in World War II. Cases like those stand out as so horrific precisely because the American military has the strong ethical foundation the Wehrmacht lacked and generally does not commit war crimes.

But the dynamics of units in combat at ground level can be strikingly similar across time and space, and so we ignore historical lessons at our peril. Perhaps that's why one case study from my research on the German army and the Holocaust forms the foundation of a training module for the U.S. military in conjunction with the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and West Point. It is used by ROTC programs and military units across the country.

Leaders are constantly making policy, by what they do — and by what they don't do. Trump's posture endangers our deployed men and women by betraying the trust of host nations that we will prosecute those rare individuals who commit crimes against their people.

Waitman Wade Beorn, a combat veteran of Iraq, is a Holocaust and genocide studies historian, a lecturer at the University of Virginia, and the author of "Marching Into Darkness: The Wehrmacht and the Holocaust in Belarus."

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Amazon delivery service partners with vets

By KEN-YON HARDY
Stars and Stripes

RICHMOND, Va. — In the six months after he partnered with Amazon, former Army Maj. Quinton Burgess saw the number of his trucks and employees rise exponentially.

"I started off with five trucks and 10 employees," Burgess said, inside an Amazon warehouse in Richmond, Va. "We rapidly grew over the last six months ... I have 60 personnel now and 30 trucks."

Amazon's Delivery Service Partner program is geared toward entrepreneurs interested in working with the e-commerce giant to launch small businesses.

In return, Amazon uses these independent logistics companies to meet the demand to deliver Amazon packages from warehouses to homes. The program began in June 2018.

Amazon provides branded Amazon vans customized for delivery, a fuel program, high-quality uniforms and business services, such as recruiting tool discounts; payroll, tax and accounting software discounts; legal support; insurance options; and more.

The company also has incentives for veterans. Amazon has committed \$1 million to reimburse up to \$10,000 in startup costs for only qualified U.S. military veterans.

"When we sat down to think who we wanted to be our leaders, we wanted ... military veterans to join the program," said Amanda Lee, Amazon spokeswoman. "Amazon has a long history of supporting and hiring veterans within the company at various levels ... and we wanted to do the same for our delivery service partners."

After spending 26 years in the



KEN-YON HARDY/Stars and Stripes

Retired Army Maj. Quinton Burgess helps load items into his truck to be delivered at an Amazon Shipping Plant in Richmond, Va. Burgess, with his Allegiance Logistics LLC company, has partnered with Amazon as part of a program that helps veterans become entrepreneurs.

Army with the 3rd Infantry Division and later with the 1st Sustainment Command (Theater) in Iraq and Afghanistan, Burgess said he was ready for a change. He decided to start Allegiance Logistics LLC, a transportation and delivery company.

"I came to the point where I wanted to do something else," he said. "I feel like I served my country ... and I wanted to do more for Quinton."

"So becoming an entrepreneur was something that I wanted to do and I decided to make that change."

Experience working for United Parcel Service, along with his

Amazon has a long history of supporting and hiring veterans within the company at various levels.'

military background, pushed Burgess toward shipping and logistics.

"The opportunity came with Amazon," Burgess, 60, said. "My wife and I saw the commercial ... and really thought this would be a great opportunity with my background."

Amanda Lee
Amazon spokeswoman

There are risks in any business venture. Amazon makes it clear that its revenue and profit projections are "unproven estimates," according to GeekWire.com.

"We do not guarantee results of any kind, including that what a delivery company earns will exceed the owner's investment

in his or her business," according to Amazon's brochure, the Seattle-based technology news site reported.

Still, Burgess recommends the Amazon program, especially for former servicemembers.

"For veterans who are considering doing this, I would tell them to jump in by all means," he said. "It may be the best opportunity they have."

"I come here excited every day," he said. "It puts me back to where I commanded troops."

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (May 13)	\$1.1535
Dollar buys (May 13)	69.8669
British pound (May 13)	\$1.33
Japanese yen (May 13)	107.00
South Korean won (May 13)	1,147.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	\$1.3034
Canada (Dollar)	1.3383
China (Yuan)	6.8241
Denmark (Krone)	6.6392
Egypt (Pound)	17.1233
Euro	\$1.1245/0.8893
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8481
Hungary (Forint)	267.44
Israel (Shekel)	3.5614
Japan (Yen)	109.56
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3042
Norway (Krone)	8.7222
Philippines (Peso)	52.36
Poland (Zloty)	3.82
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7515
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3622
South Korea (Won)	1,178.56
Switzerland (Franc)	1.0106
Thailand (Baht)	31.55
Turkey (New Lira)	6.0851

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance. For Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, for nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.50
Discount rate	3.00
Federal funds market rate	3.39
3-month bill	2.37
30-year bond	2.87

WEATHER OUTLOOK



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Frazz



Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



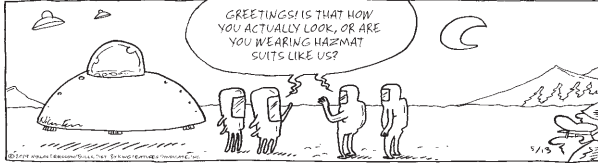
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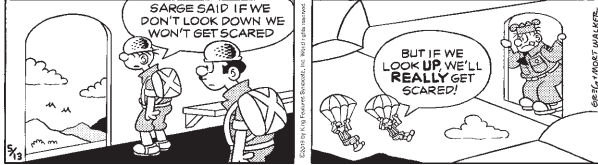
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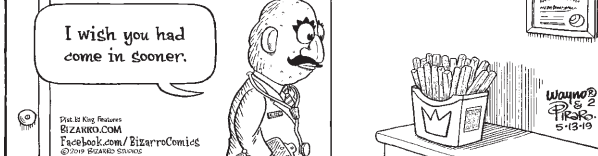
Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10
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56				57				58			
59				60				61			

ACROSS

- 1 Pirate's chart
- 4 "Shark Tank" network
- 7 Clench
- 11 Misfortunes
- 13 Monk's title
- 14 Jeans maker
- 15 Grabbed
- 16 Sailor
- 17 Opposite of "sans"
- 18 Lukewarm
- 20 Soft shoes, for short
- 22 Eggy quaff
- 24 Give
- 28 Limo alternative
- 32 Orange variety
- 33 Online auction site
- 34 "Kapow!"
- 36 Traditional tales
- 37 Winter woes
- 39 Lauded
- 41 Balloon filler
- 43 Little rascal
- 44 Beseech
- 46 Speak one's mind
- 50 Big swig
- 53 Profit
- 55 Alike (Fr.)
- 56 Sheltered
- 57 — Jima
- 58 Activist Parks

DOWN

- 5 Twinkler in the sky
- 6 Venomous viper
- 61 Campaigned
- 1 Catcher's aid
- 2 Skin soother
- 3 Fall into a soft chair
- 4 Astern
- 5 "Dracula" author Stoker
- 6 Ersatz chocolate
- 7 Fairy-tale footwear
- 8 Speed (up)
- 9 "— had it!"
- 10 Photo, for short
- 12 Swimmer without a suit
- 19 Medico
- 21 Biz bigwig
- 23 Prattle
- 25 New Mexico resort
- 26 Shrek, for one
- 27 Garden intruder
- 28 Georgia or Cal
- 29 Bassoon's kin
- 30 Humpty's perch
- 31 Knock
- 35 Hosp., scan
- 38 California's Big —
- 401 love (Lat.)
- 42 Craze
- 45 Evergreen trees
- 47 Mr. Stravinsky
- 48 "Apollo 13" org.
- 49 Panache
- 50 Tank filler
- 51 Last (Abbr.)
- 52 Meadow
- 54 Spinning toy

Answer to Previous Puzzle

R	O	Y	A	L	N	O	M	A	D										
M	E	D	I	C	O		A	B	A	T	E								
C	H	E	N	E			T	I	E	R									
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5-13

CRYPTOQUIP

KRDH WH DBWYB KBP QRQC
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CPSQPZZWRHZ: KBP BRVP
YWK T.

Saturday's Cryptoquip: LARGE AREA OF THE U.S. WHERE PEOPLE ALWAYS PUT FORTH TON OF EFFORT: THE GREAT PAINS REGION.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals R


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AUTO RACING

Keselowski gets victory

Driver dedicates win to mentor, who died Friday

By DAVE SKRETTA
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — Brad Keselowski had planned to head to St. Louis after the NASCAR Cup Series race at Kansas Speedway to visit Mike Mitterer, a longtime Truck Series owner who helped him early in his career and had been battling cancer the past couple years.

But after Mitterer died Friday night at the age of 67, Keselowski headed to Victory Lane instead, capturing the checkered flag Saturday night and dedicating the win to his friend and mentor.

"He helped a lot of guys in their career. Just a huge loss for the NASCAR community," said Keselowski, who held off Alex Bowman and a charging field in overtime for his third win this season.

"One of those unsung heroes," Keselowski added. "Gave his whole life to this sport."

Mitterer would have liked the NASCAR community. Keselowski won at Kansas.

He dealt with balance problems early in the race, never really contested with the faster cars of Kevin Harvick and Kyle Busch through the first couple of stages, yet managed to get everything sorted out in time to give Team Penske a satisfying Saturday sweep.

Simon Pagenaud won a wet and wild IndyCar Grand Prix in Indianapolis earlier in the day.

Bowman finished second for the third straight week, while Erik Jones triggered some bad blood with Kansas native Clint Bowyer by making an aggressive move that allowed him to hold onto third.

"I think it was just racing," Jones said with a shrug. "We were racing hard. This pack really leads to a lot of protecting your position. I'm not going to give up these four spots."

Elliott dominated long stretches of the race before losing the lead to Ricky Stenhouse Jr. with 22 laps to go. But after his car failed inspection twice and Elliott had to start at the back, he still managed to work his way to the front for his third consecutive top-five finish.

Bowyer rounded out the top five, though his run-in with Jones left him in no mood to celebrate.

The big question coming into the race was how NASCAR's new rules package would fare, especially after it was panned by drivers and owners alike this week. But with an overcast sky and cool temps, the package wound up producing arguably the best race of the entire Cup Series season.

Harvick dominated early before a flat right tire with 90 laps to go got him out of pit sequence. Busch then pulled into contention and was challenging for the lead when a caution came out for Austin Dillon's lost tire with 50 laps to go, sending the leaders to the pits. Busch wound up going through too many boxes and was sent to the back of the field.

"Sure takes the win away, doesn't it?" Busch said ruefully on his radio. Stenhouse took the lead when he swung past Bowman and Elliott, and Keselowski suddenly appeared in his rearview mirror.

The former Cup Series champion had been hanging around the top 10 all day but had been struggling with balance, and he seemed to find it at the perfect time.

Keselowski pulled even with seven laps to go, then held his lead on the green-white-checkered restart to win the first overtime spring race at Kansas Speedway.

Unhappy Harvick: Still in search of his first win this season, Harvick led a race-high 104 laps and became the career leader in laps led at Kansas before a cut tire ruined his day. Harvick wound up 13th, even though he may have had the fastest car of the day.

Equally unhappy Busch: Nobody was more critical of the rules package than Busch, especially after last week's race at Dover. Busch was griping about the aero package within the first 10 laps Saturday night, but he was still near the front before his road miscue dropped him from contention.

Bowman's bummer: It took Bowman all of 5 minutes to tweet after the race how sorely he wanted his first career win. He has guided the No. 88 to the front each of the past three races, only to settle for runner-up finishes.

Just made some bad decisions and never should have given the 2 car a chance at it," Bowman said.

A fourth fail: The car chiefs for Joey Logano, Elliott and Kyle Larson were ejected after their cars failed inspection for a second time, though all three made it through on the third try.

In fact, more than a fourth of the field failed their first inspection. That included five of the top eight qualifiers, including Aric Almirola, Daniel Suarez and Martin Truex Jr.



ORLIN WAGNER/AP

Brad Keselowski celebrates in Victory Lane following Saturday's NASCAR Cup Series race at Kansas Speedway in Kansas City, Kan.

Scoreboard

Digital Ally 400 NASCAR MONSTER ENERGY CUP Saturday Kansas City, Kan.

- (4) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 271.
- (5) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 271.
- (6) Erik Jones, Toyota, 271.
- (32) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 271.
- (2) Clint Bowyer, Ford, 271.
- (12) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 271.
- (9) Kurt Busch, Chevrolet, 271.
- (35) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 271.
- (21) Tyler Reddick, Chevrolet, 271.
- (18) Chris Buescher, Chevrolet, 271.
- (14) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 271.
- (33) Aric Almirola, Ford, 271.
- (16) Corey LaJoie, Ford, 270.
- (19) Ryan Newman, Ford, 269.
- (10) Paul Menard, Ford, 269.
- (22) Ryan Preece, Chevrolet, 268.
- (37) Michael McDowell, Ford, 269.
- (24) David Ragan, Ford, 269.
- (30) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, 268.
- (7) Bubba Wallace, Chevrolet, 269.
- (25) Quin Houff, Chevrolet, 263.
- (29) Reid Sorenson, Chevrolet, 263.
- (31) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 264.
- (32) Bayley Currey, Ford, 263.
- (23) Quin Houff, Chevrolet, 263.
- (29) Reid Sorenson, Chevrolet, 263.
- (20) Matt DiBenedetto, Toyota, Engine, 261.
- (38) Landon Cassill, Chevrolet, 261.
- (40) Joey Gase, Toyota, 258.
- (39) Timmy Hill, Toyota, 257.
- (28) Cody Ware, Chevrolet, 245.

Average Speed of Race Winner: 131.023 mph.

Time of Race: 3 Hrs, 6 Mins, 9 Secs. Margin of Victory: 205 Seconds.

Caution Flags: 41 laps. Lead Changes: 23 among 12 drivers.

Lap Leaders: K. Harvick 1-32; W. Byron 33-36; Bowyer 37-48; Harvick 49-62; Elliott 63-65; Busch 66-104; Ty Dillon 105-118; Busch 89-91K; Harvick 92-122K; Elliott 123A; Bowman 124C; Keselowski 261-271.

Stenhouse Jr. 135-142K; Keselowski 143M; Truex 144C; Elliott 145-162K; Harvick 163-178A; Bowman 179-228C; Elliott 229-245S; Stenhouse Jr. 246-248A; Bowman 249-269B.

Laps Led: Keselowski 5 times for 104 laps; Alex Bowman 3 times for 63 laps; Chase Elliott 5 times for 45 laps; Clint Bowyer 1 time for 11 laps; Brad Keselowski 2 times for 12 laps; Ricky Stenhouse Jr. 2 times for 11 laps; Chris

Buescher 1 time for 10 laps; Kurt Busch 1 time for 7 laps; William Byron 1 time for 4 laps; Matt Tiff 1 time for 1 lap; Kyle Busch 1 time for 1 lap; Ross Chastain 0 time for 1 lap.

IndyCar Grand Prix Saturday Indianapolis Motor Speedway Indianapolis

- (Start position in parentheses) 85 laps, Running
- (2) Scott Dixon, New Zealand, 85 laps, Running
- (3) Jack Harvey, Britain, 85 laps, Running
- (4) Matheus Leist, Brazil, 85 laps, Running
- (5) Ed Jones, Britain, 85 laps, Running
- (12) Spencer Pigot, United States, 85 laps, Running
- (9) Ed Jones, Britain, 85 laps, Running
- (6) Will Power, Australia, 85 laps, Running
- (8) Felix Rosenqvist, Sweden, 85 laps, Running
- (7) Graham Rahal, United States, 85 laps, Running
- (14) Santino Ferrucci, United States, 85 laps, Running
- (10) Sebastian Bourdais, France, 85 laps, Running
- (20) Zach Vechey, United States, 85 laps, Running
- (18) James Hinchcliffe, Canada, 85 laps, Running
- (17) P. Hunter-Reay, United States, 85 laps, Running
- (24) Tony Kanaan, Brazil, 83 laps, Running
- (15) Helio Castroneves, Brazil, 83 laps, Running
- (21) Alexander Rossi, United States, 81 laps, Running
- (23) Colton Herta, United States, 15 laps, Contact
- (9) Marcus Ericsson, Sweden, 11 laps, Contact

Average Speed of Race Winner: 103.7 mph.

Time of Race: 2:06:28.1166. Margin of Victory: 2.0669.

Cautions: 3 for 15 laps.

Lap Leaders: Rosenqvist 1-15, Dixon 16-26, Rahal 27, Newgarden 28-39, Dixon 40-46, Rahal 47-49, Bourdais 50-51, Newgarden 52-59, Pagenaud 60-62, Dixon 63-65, P. Hunter-Reay 66-84.

Points: Pagenaud 51, Dixon 43, Harvey 38, Matt 32, Pigot 30, Jones 28, Rosenqvist 26, Rahal 23, Bourdais 20, Vech 18, Andretti 17, Newgarden 16, Hinchcliffe 14, Hunter-Reay 13, Chilton 12, O'Ward 11, Kanaan 10, Castroneves 9, Rossi 8, Herta 7, Ericsson 6.

Pagenaud claims third Indy GP

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Simon Pagenaud ended his victory drought Saturday with a splashy move — and a rooster tail celebration.

He completed a daring three-turn pass on the second-to-last lap and sped away from Scott Dixon for his third IndyCar Grand Prix victory and first series win since the 2017 season finale at Sonoma. Pagenaud beat five-time series champion Scott Dixon by 2.0469 seconds.

"It always look for rain because it's fun driving in the rain," he said. "It's a fun exercise. On a dry track, it's very much repetitious. The wet is what I used to grow up on racing. It's just a lot of fun in the rain."

While other drivers struggled with tire wear on the wet road course, Pagenaud got even more aggressive — a trick he learned driving in his home country of France.

Pagenaud said he experimented with the braking, threw in



MICHAEL CONROY/AP

Simon Pagenaud celebrates Saturday after winning the Indy Grand Prix at Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Indianapolis.

some fakes and took advantage of other drivers' second thoughts.

The result: He erased a six-plus second differential with Dixon in the final five laps and there

was nothing the five-time series champion could do to stop the hard-charging Pagenaud.

"I knew, with about 10 laps to go, we're going to get hosed here," Dixon said after finishing second for the 43rd time in his IndyCar career. "The front tires, we just didn't have — I don't know if we changed the front wing, or whatever we did, but we just had no front grip."

As easy as Pagenaud made it look in the closing laps, that wasn't the case earlier in the race.

He qualified eighth, barely avoided a loose tire from teammate Josef Newgarden following a pit stop and ran out of push-to-pass while getting by Jack Harvey for second.

Yet somehow, he still managed to give Team Penske its fifth consecutive win on Indianapolis Motor Speedway's 2.439-mile, 14-turn course. Pagenaud and teammate Will Power are the only drivers to win this race, each three times.

HIGH SCHOOL

DODEA Pacific roundup

Far East battle heating up in the sprints

Kinnick's Watson runs the Pacific's top 100 in 2019

By DAVE ORNAUER
Stars and Stripes

For the second time in two weeks, the unofficial title of Pacific high school's fastest human changed hands.

Chris Watson, Nile C. Kinnick's sophomore sprinter, recorded the Pacific's fastest 100-meter time Saturday, clocking 11.15 seconds in the Kanto Plain Association of Secondary Schools finals at Yokota.

He seemed surprised to learn that he took over the regional lead from Humphreys' Tevion Williams by .03 seconds; Williams hit 11.18 on May 3 in Korea's last Chance Invitational.

Watson and Williams are 1-2 with DODEA Pacific in the 100, followed by Kadena senior Eric McCarter (11.30). The fastest overseas time overall is 11.03 by junior Donavin Robinson of Okinawa in Italy.

"He's a nice young man, easy-going, very coachable," coach Luke Voth said of Watson, who also won the 200 and 400 on Saturday.

Williams, a freshman, also made a clean sweep Saturday of the 100, 200 and 400 in the Korea district finals. Okinawa's district finals were a week ago, but McCarter was still in action, leading Kadena's 400-meter team to victory in Saturday's Okinawa district relay meet.

It was the last preparation for the three sprinters before the Far East meet May 22-23 at Yokota.

"It's going to be a showdown," Humphreys assistant coach Shivoda Gregory said. "Far East is going to be one for the records this year."

"It should be at least exciting," Voth said. The three will also be taking aim at the Pacific's 100-meter mark of 10.78 set by Kinnick's Jabari Johnson in the 2016 Far East meet.

"They have the potential to beat the 100 (mark)," Voth said. "I'd be surprised if a freshman got it this year, but anything can happen."

Watson said his goals this season — his last in the Pacific; he transfers to Pennsylvania next month — are to reach 10.9 in the 100, under 22 seconds in the 200 and to reach a personal record in the long jump.

"Honestly, I'll be able to do that," he said. "I can do it if I put my mind to it."

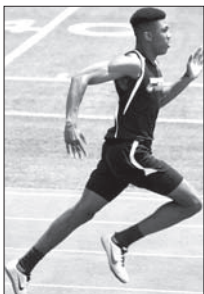
Williams was not alone in shining on the Korea track on Saturday.

Teammate Jaela Higgs swept the girls' 100, 200 and 400, getting within Pacific record distance in all three events, while hurdler Ju-



BRENNA McNEILL/Special to Stripes

Nile C. Kinnick's Debrinna Ellis leads the pack to the finish in the girls' 200 meters during Saturday's Kanto Plain track and field finals. Ellis finished first in the 100, 200 and 400.



CIERRA DENNIE/Special to Stripes

Humphreys' Tevion Williams heads down the stretch during Saturday's Korea district track and field finals. The freshman finished first in the 100, 200 and 400 and is currently second in the Pacific in the 100.

nior Gregory came with a second of the Pacific's 300-meter hurdles mark.

The younger Gregory and head coach Ron Merrivether said Humphreys has historically run better at Yokota.

"Here, we're racing the same people every week," Junior Gregory said. "At Yokota, we have people who are faster than us; it makes us show all the hard work we're putting in is about to get us where we need to be."

Kinnick's Johnson holds the Pacific marks in the boys 100 and 200 (21.23) and American School in Japan's Britt Sease in the 400 (48.06).

John F. Kennedy's Regine Tugade — now at the Naval Academy — holds the Pacific's girls' 100 and 200 marks (12.26 and 25.52). Amalie Luel of International School Bangkok holds the 400 mark at 56.80. The boys



CALEIGH GARCIA/Special to Stripes

Nile C. Kinnick sophomore speedster Chris Watson crosses the finish line first in the 400-meter dash during Saturday's Kanto Plain track and field finals. Watson won the 100, 200 and 400 and has the Pacific's fastest 100 time this season.

300 hurdles mark, 39.25, is nearly 20 years old and held by Darrell Bradford of Guam's Simon Sanchez.

Two no-hitters pitched

Edrick Cummings threw E.J. King's second no-hitter of the season in a 15-0 win over Marist Brothers at Iwakuni's Kizuna Stadium.

The sophomore transfer from Jacksonville, Fla., gave up a walk and struck out five, and got help in the form of a 12-run first inning.

"He had good command," coach Joe Schinker said. "He was able to get his curve ball across and had confidence enough to throw it early and late in the count."

Schinker's son Leo tossed a no-hitter on March 22 in a 16-0 win over Zama.

Also in Japan, American

School In Japan held Nile C. Kinnick to just two hits, and Yamato Hill drove in three runs over two games as the Mustangs swept the Red Devils 16-0 and 10-1.

In Korea, Kierden Blessing and Gavin Hight combined to no-hit Seoul American on Saturday in a 21-4 Humphreys win. They combined for nine strikeouts on just 34 pitches in three innings. Blessing tripled and drove in four runs to help his cause.

Humphreys' baseball and softball teams swept two-game slates on Saturday, beating Seoul and Osan, in Korea's last regular-season action.

Isabella Malsbys got both wins

and drove in three runs and Xyra Razon had five RBIs against Seoul as the Blackhawks beat the Falcons 20-0 and the Cougars 11-1 on the softball diamond.

On Japan's softball diamonds, King rebounded from a Friday night loss at Matthew C. Perry to sweep a doubleheader 12-11 and 19-9. Joanne Tanaka batted 4-for-5 with two RBIs and six stolen bases for the Cobras.

Ceara McKenzie hit a grand slam and Jessica Atkinson a two-run shot and Zama rallied from four runs down with a six-run second inning to beat ASIJ 11-9 in the second game of a doubleheader.

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MLB SCOREBOARD

American League

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	24	14	.632	—
New York	21	19	.525	4
Baltimore	16	23	.410	.875
Toronto	16	23	.410	.875
Minnesota	16	23	.410	.875
Cleveland	20	18	.526	—
Detroit	17	20	.459	.715
Chicago White Sox	17	20	.459	.715
Kansas City	14	26	.350	1.265

Central Division

West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

National League

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	22	16	.579	3
Atlanta	22	16	.579	3
New York	19	20	.487	.375
San Diego	19	20	.487	.375
Miami	10	29	.256	12.125

Central Division

West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	24	17	.588	—
Milwaukee	21	17	.558	.210
St. Louis	19	17	.528	.375
Pittsburgh	19	17	.528	.375
Cincinnati	18	22	.450	.615

Saturday's games

Boston 5, Seattle 5
Detroit 5, Minnesota 3, 1st game
Cincinnati 4, N.Y. Yankees 2, 2nd game
L.A. Angels 7, Baltimore 2
Oakland 3, Cleveland 2
San Diego 4, N.Y. Yankees 2
Philadelphia 7, Kansas City 0
Cincinnati 4, Detroit 3, 2nd game
Houston 11, Texas 4
Pittsburgh 5, St. Louis 1
Chicago 24, Milwaukee 1, 15 innings
Los Angeles 4, Miami 1

Sunday's games

Los Angeles 4, Arizona 4
San Diego 4, Colorado 3
Cincinnati 5, San Francisco 4
Washington 5, L.A. Dodgers 2
L.A. Angels at Baltimore
Seattle at Boston
Chicago White Sox at Toronto
Texas at Houston
Philadelphia at Kansas City
Cleveland at Oakland
Pittsburgh at St. Louis
San Diego at Colorado
Atlanta at San Francisco
Atlanta at Chicago
Milwaukee at L.A. Dodgers
Milwaukee at Chicago Cubs
Baltimore (Hess) 1, N.Y. Yankees (Lorenzo) 1-1
Cincinnati (Peacock) 3-2 at Detroit (Boyd) 4-2
Los Angeles (Skaggs) 3-1 at Minnesota (Berrios) 6-1
White Sox (Lopez) 2-1 at Chicago (Fiers) 3-1 at Seattle (Kikuchi) 1-0
Milwaukee (TBD) at Philadelphia (Nolasco) 1-0
Pittsburgh (Gibson) 1-0 at Arizona (Ray) 1-1

Saturday

Reds 5, Giants 4

Cincinnati	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	24	14	.632	—
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

Sunday

Reds 5, Giants 4

Cincinnati	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	24	14	.632	—
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

Sunday

Reds 5, Giants 4

Cincinnati	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	24	14	.632	—
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

Sunday

Reds 5, Giants 4

Cincinnati	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	24	14	.632	—
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

Astros 11, Rangers 4

Texas	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	24	14	.632	—
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

Central Division

West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

National League

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	22	16	.579	3
Atlanta	22	16	.579	3
New York	19	20	.487	.375
San Diego	19	20	.487	.375
Miami	10	29	.256	12.125

Central Division

West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	24	17	.588	—
Milwaukee	21	17	.558	.210
St. Louis	19	17	.528	.375
Pittsburgh	19	17	.528	.375
Cincinnati	18	22	.450	.615

Saturday's games

Boston 5, Seattle 5
Detroit 5, Minnesota 3, 1st game
Cincinnati 4, N.Y. Yankees 2, 2nd game
L.A. Angels 7, Baltimore 2
Oakland 3, Cleveland 2
San Diego 4, N.Y. Yankees 2
Philadelphia 7, Kansas City 0
Cincinnati 4, Detroit 3, 2nd game
Houston 11, Texas 4
Pittsburgh 5, St. Louis 1
Chicago 24, Milwaukee 1, 15 innings
Los Angeles 4, Miami 1

Sunday's games

Los Angeles 4, Arizona 4
San Diego 4, Colorado 3
Cincinnati 5, San Francisco 4
Washington 5, L.A. Dodgers 2
L.A. Angels at Baltimore
Seattle at Boston
Chicago White Sox at Toronto
Texas at Houston
Philadelphia at Kansas City
Cleveland at Oakland
Pittsburgh at St. Louis
San Diego at Colorado
Atlanta at San Francisco
Atlanta at Chicago
Milwaukee at L.A. Dodgers
Milwaukee at Chicago Cubs
Baltimore (Hess) 1, N.Y. Yankees (Lorenzo) 1-1
Cincinnati (Peacock) 3-2 at Detroit (Boyd) 4-2
Los Angeles (Skaggs) 3-1 at Minnesota (Berrios) 6-1
White Sox (Lopez) 2-1 at Chicago (Fiers) 3-1 at Seattle (Kikuchi) 1-0
Milwaukee (TBD) at Philadelphia (Nolasco) 1-0
Pittsburgh (Gibson) 1-0 at Arizona (Ray) 1-1

Saturday

Reds 5, Giants 4

Cincinnati	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	24	14	.632	—
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

Sunday

Reds 5, Giants 4

Cincinnati	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	24	14	.632	—
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

Sunday

Reds 5, Giants 4

Cincinnati	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	24	14	.632	—
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

Sunday

Reds 5, Giants 4

Cincinnati	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	24	14	.632	—
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

Tigers 5, Twins 3

Minnesota	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	24	14	.632	—
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

Central Division

West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

National League

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	22	16	.579	3
Atlanta	22	16	.579	3
New York	19	20	.487	.375
San Diego	19	20	.487	.375
Miami	10	29	.256	12.125

Central Division

West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	24	17	.588	—
Milwaukee	21	17	.558	.210
St. Louis	19	17	.528	.375
Pittsburgh	19	17	.528	.375
Cincinnati	18	22	.450	.615

Saturday's games

Boston 5, Seattle 5
Detroit 5, Minnesota 3, 1st game
Cincinnati 4, N.Y. Yankees 2, 2nd game
L.A. Angels 7, Baltimore 2
Oakland 3, Cleveland 2
San Diego 4, N.Y. Yankees 2
Philadelphia 7, Kansas City 0
Cincinnati 4, Detroit 3, 2nd game
Houston 11, Texas 4
Pittsburgh 5, St. Louis 1
Chicago 24, Milwaukee 1, 15 innings
Los Angeles 4, Miami 1

Sunday's games

Los Angeles 4, Arizona 4
San Diego 4, Colorado 3
Cincinnati 5, San Francisco 4
Washington 5, L.A. Dodgers 2
L.A. Angels at Baltimore
Seattle at Boston
Chicago White Sox at Toronto
Texas at Houston
Philadelphia at Kansas City
Cleveland at Oakland
Pittsburgh at St. Louis
San Diego at Colorado
Atlanta at San Francisco
Atlanta at Chicago
Milwaukee at L.A. Dodgers
Milwaukee at Chicago Cubs
Baltimore (Hess) 1, N.Y. Yankees (Lorenzo) 1-1
Cincinnati (Peacock) 3-2 at Detroit (Boyd) 4-2
Los Angeles (Skaggs) 3-1 at Minnesota (Berrios) 6-1
White Sox (Lopez) 2-1 at Chicago (Fiers) 3-1 at Seattle (Kikuchi) 1-0
Milwaukee (TBD) at Philadelphia (Nolasco) 1-0
Pittsburgh (Gibson) 1-0 at Arizona (Ray) 1-1

Saturday

Reds 5, Giants 4

Cincinnati	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	24	14	.632	—
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

Sunday

Reds 5, Giants 4

Cincinnati	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	24	14	.632	—
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

Sunday

Reds 5, Giants 4

Cincinnati	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	24	14	.632	—
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

Sunday

Reds 5, Giants 4

Cincinnati	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	24	14	.632	—
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

Angels 7, Orioles 2

Los Angeles	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	24	14	.632	—
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

Central Division

West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	25	15	.625	—
Los Angeles	20	22	.476	6
Oakland	19	22	.463	.615
San Francisco	19	22	.463	.615

National League

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	22	16	.579	3
Atlanta	22	16	.579	3
New York	19	20	.487	.375
San Diego	19	20	.487	.375
Miami	10	29	.256	12.125

Central Division

West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	24	17	.588	—
Milwaukee	21	17	.558	.210
St. Louis	19	17	.528	.375
Pittsburgh	19	17	.528	.375
Cincinnati	18	22	.450	.615

Saturday's games

Boston 5, Seattle 5
Detroit 5, Minnesota 3, 1st game
Cincinnati 4, N.Y. Yankees 2, 2nd game
L.A. Angels 7, Baltimore 2
Oakland 3, Cleveland 2
San Diego 4, N.Y. Yankees 2
Philadelphia 7, Kansas City 0
Cincinnati 4, Detroit 3, 2nd game
Houston 11, Texas 4
Pittsburgh 5, St. Louis 1
Chicago 24, Milwaukee 1, 15 innings
Los Angeles 4, Miami 1

Sunday's games

Los Angeles 4, Arizona 4
San Diego 4, Colorado 3
Cincinnati 5, San Francisco 4
Washington 5, L.A. Dodgers 2
L.A. Angels at Baltimore
Seattle at Boston
Chicago White Sox at Toronto
Texas at Houston
Philadelphia at Kansas City
Cleveland at Oakland
Pittsburgh at St. Louis
San Diego at Colorado
Atlanta at San Francisco
Atlanta at Chicago
Milwaukee at L.A. Dodgers
Milwaukee at Chicago Cubs
Baltimore (Hess) 1, N.Y. Yankees (Lorenzo) 1-1
Cincinnati (Peacock) 3-2 at Detroit (Boyd) 4-2
Los Angeles (Skaggs) 3-1 at Minnesota (Berrios) 6-1
White Sox (Lopez) 2-1 at Chicago (Fiers) 3-1 at Seattle (Kikuchi) 1-0
Milwaukee (TBD) at Philadelphia (Nolasco) 1-0
Pittsburgh (Gibson) 1-0 at Arizona (Ray) 1-1

Saturday

Reds 5, Giants 4

Cincinnati	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	24	14	.632	—
Seattle	25	15	.625	—

MLB

Roundup

Contreras blast lifts Cubs in the 15th

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Willson Contreras homered in the 15th inning to give the Chicago Cubs a 2-1 victory over the Milwaukee Brewers on Saturday.

Contreras turned on a 1-2 pitch from Burch Smith (0-1), sending a long shot to left field that gave Chicago its 11th win in 13 games. He spun and flipped his bat toward the Cubs' dugout as the ball sailed toward the bleachers, and he was mobbed by teammates when he crossed the plate.

Chicago moved back ahead of the Brewers for the NL Central lead after falling into a virtual tie with Friday's 7-0 loss. Milwaukee had its season-high seven-game win streak snapped.

Rays 7, Yankees 2: Willy Adams and Ji-Man Choi hit run-scoring infield singles in the sixth after tempers flared during the top of the inning when reliever Yonny Chirinos hit Luke Voit near the left shoulder.

Yandy Diaz homered twice and drove in four runs for host Tampa Bay, which reopened a 1½-game lead in the AL East over New York.

Voit was hit by Chirinos (5-1) one batter after DJ LeMahieu's tying solo homer.

Red Sox 9, Mariners 5: Sandy Leon fouled off a bunt attempt, then hit a three-run homer to cap an eight-run third inning that carried surging Boston over visiting Seattle.

Mitch Moreland started the Red Sox comeback from a 4-0 deficit against Felix Hernandez (1-4) with a solo homer. The World Series champions won for the 15th time in 21 games following a 6-13 start.

Athletics 3, Indians 2: Matt Olson scored from third base when right fielder Jordan Luplow



NAN Y. HUN/AP

Chicago Cubs catcher Willson Contreras hits the game-winning solo home run against the Milwaukee Brewers during the 15th inning Saturday in Chicago. The Cubs won 2-1 to take the NL Central lead.

slipped trying to field Ramon Laureano's short fly in the ninth inning, lifting host Oakland over Cleveland in a wacky, sloppy game.

Olson walked leading off against A.J. Cole (0-1) and scored when Laureano lofted an 0-1 pitch over the head of second baseman Jason Kipnis, who was running toward right field. Luplow appeared in position to make the catch but slipped on the grass and fell as the ball dropped in for a single, allowing Olson to score easily.

Nationals 5, Dodgers 2: Ge-

rardo Parra's grand slam in the eighth inning helped Washington rally to a win in Los Angeles.

Parra — signed by the Nationals on Thursday after being designated for assignment by San Francisco last week — hit a fastball from Dylan Floro into the seats in right-center for his second home run of the season. It is the second grand slam of his career, with the other coming on April 22, 2012, against Atlanta.

Mets 4, Marlins 1: Jacob deGrom ended a five-start winless streak, allowing a run over seven innings to win for the first time

since April 3 and lead host New York over Miami.

Pete Alonso and Michael Conforto hit back-to-back homers in a three-run sixth that included an RBI single by deGrom, his second of the night. DeGrom (3-4) allowed five hits and one walk while striking out eight.

Phillies 7, Royals 0: Zach Eflin became the majors' first pitcher with two complete games this season, lifting Philadelphia to a win in Kansas City.

Eflin (5-3) finished his second career shutout, the other coming July 22, 2016 in his eighth major

league start. He allowed four hits, struck out seven and walked none while throwing 110 pitches.

Braves 6, Diamondbacks 4: Brian McCann homered over the swimming pool behind the right-field wall and Johan Camargo also went deep, helping Atlanta win at Arizona.

Astros 11, Rangers 4: Gerrit Cole struck out a season-high 12. Aledmys Diaz hit a grand slam while starting in place of injured star Jose Altuve and host Houston beat Texas.

Padres 4, Rockies 3: Greg Garcia drove in the winning run with a bases-loaded fielder's choice in the ninth inning and closer Kirby Yates struck out the side for his 16th save as San Diego won at Colorado.

Tigers 5-3, Twins 3-8: C.J. Cron broke open the game with a three-run homer, and host Minnesota beat Detroit in the nightcap to earn a doubleheader split.

Cron's line drive to left field in the fifth inning off rookie Gregory Soto (0-1) was his second of the day — he also went deep in the opener.

Pirates 2, Cardinals 1: Jordan Lyles overcame a 30-pitch first inning to combine with four relievers on a two-hitter, and Pittsburgh won at St. Louis for its seventh win in 10 games following an eight-game skid.

Reds 5, Giants 4: Derek Dietrich singled in the tiebreaking run in the seventh inning. Eugenio Suarez and Yasiel Puig homered, and Cincinnati won at San Francisco.

White Sox 7, Blue Jays 2: Marcus Stroman was angry when removed from yet another start when he received little run support, and host Toronto lost to Chicago and Ivan Nova (2-3).

Pujols homers twice to lead Angels

By DAVID GINSBURG

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Now in his 19th major league season, Albert Pujols still has the power and bat speed to hit a baseball a very long way.

Pujols homered twice to increase his total to 641, had three RBIs and scored three runs to help the Los Angeles Angels beat the Baltimore Orioles 7-2 Saturday.

Even at age 39, Pujols can carry an offense pretty much by himself.

"Others contributed, but Albert was the key contributor tonight," manager Brad Ausmus said.

Pujols hit a two-run drive in the first inning and a solo shot in the fourth. He also singled and scored in a three-run sixth that made it 6-2.

"One of the best right-handed hitters of all time, right?" Orioles manager Brandon Hyde said. "He is who he is because of what he did today."

Both home runs came against Dylan Bundy (1-5), who has yielded 11 long balls this season after serving up a major league-high 41 last year. Baltimore has allowed 83 homers, 19 more than any other big league team.

"Yeah, he got me twice today. You can't make a

mistake to him and I missed my spot on both pitches," Bundy lamented. "Just a little bit on the first one. But the second one, I just lost command there and missed my spot by about a foot-and-a-half."

Pujols has played in 35 games this year and has eight homers and 21 RBIs batting in the middle of the order.

"I have played well all season long," he said. "Been putting a good swing on the ball for month-and-a-half right now."

It was the 59th multihomer game of Pujols' career, the first since last July 12 against Seattle.

The slugger is 19 home runs short of matching Willie Mays for fifth on the career list. His 2,003 RBIs rank third behind Alex Rodriguez (2,086) and Hank Aaron (2,297), and his three hits gave him 3,110 — tied for 21st with Dave Winfield.

Shohei Ohtani had two hits and an RBI for Los Angeles in his fifth game this season. He's 4-for-21 since returning from the injured list following elbow surgery.

Matt Harvey started for Los Angeles and needed 93 pitches to get 12 outs. Luke Bard (1-1) followed with 1½ scoreless innings.

Dwight Smith Jr. hit a two-run homer for the Orioles.



GAIL BURTON/AP

Los Angeles Angels first baseman Albert Pujols follows through on a solo home run against the Baltimore Orioles. He homered twice and went 3-for-5 with three RBIs in a 7-2 win Saturday.

SPORTS BRIEFS/NBA

Briefly

Source: Lakers hire Vogel, assistant Kidd

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A person familiar with the search says the Los Angeles Lakers have hired Frank Vogel as coach and Jason Kidd as an assistant.

The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity Saturday because Vogel's three-year contract has not been finalized. Vogel flew to Los Angeles on Thursday and met with a group that included owner Jeanie Buss and general manager Rob Pelinka.

The 45-year-old Vogel worked for the organization before as an advance scout during the 2005-06 season. He did not coach last season following two years with the Orlando Magic. Vogel went to Orlando following five-plus seasons leading the Indiana Pacers, including trips to the Eastern Conference finals in 2013 and '14. He has a career record of 304-291.

Kidd interviewed with the Lakers last month. The former star player who was a head coach in Brooklyn and Milwaukee was fired by the Bucks during the 2017-18 season. He has a 183-190 record.

The Lakers have missed the playoffs six consecutive seasons. The drought was expected to end this season but injuries to LeBron James, Lonzo Ball and Brandon Ingram, as well as internal discord, resulted in a 37-45 record.

It's an interesting pairing in many ways, including how Vogel was fired by Indiana in 2016 and Orlando in 2018 — and how his supply could never get past James in the playoffs.

The Pacers thought they had a title contender in 2012, 2013 and 2014, and James and the Miami Heat eliminated them in all three of those postseasons. Vogel won 58 percent of his games in parts of six sea-

sons with Indiana, but the lasting image of his tenure there is the fact that those clubs were always ousted by Miami.

Now, Vogel and James will be on the same side, both looking for a resurgence. This season was James' first without a playoff appearance since 2005 and ended his streak of eight consecutive trips to the NBA Finals. Vogel is coming off a 54-110 tenure in two seasons with Orlando, while the Magic were rebuilding.

Vogel's hiring is the first step in what will be — and has already been — an eventful and critical offseason for the Lakers.

The firing of Luke Walton as coach April 12 was not unexpected, and came three days after Magic Johnson stunned the team and just about everybody else by giving up his role running the club. Johnson, the former Lakers star, dropped that news in an impromptu news conference held roughly 90 minutes before the regular-season finale.

Andrade shocks Namajunas

RIO DE JANEIRO — Jessica Andrade stunned Rose Namajunas with a second-round knockout to win the UFC 115-pound strawweight championship in her home country in the main event of UFC 237 on Saturday night.

Andrade topped Amanda Nunes for the most wins among women in UFC history with 11.

Andrade dropped to her knees in tears and raised her arms toward the sky as the Brazilian crowd went wild for the new champ. Andrade slammed Namajunas on her head — a very scary sight as the awkward angle of the landing could have resulted in a broken neck — and the fight was over at 2:58 of the second round.

"I never pile-driven in the UFC," Andrade said through an interpreter.

It ended Namajunas' reign that started when she beat Joanna Jedrzejczyk to win the belt in November 2017 and then made a successful defense in a rematch in April 2018.

Namajunas brushed off talk of a rematch and said there was a chance the loss was her last fight.

Andrade's win made up for a rough night for Brazilian fighters in their home country — they lost five straight fights on the card until Andrade broke through in the main event.

Jared Cannonier landed a devastating right kick to the inside of Anderson Silva's right knee to defeat the UFC legend in the first round via TKO. Silva went down in a heap, writhing in pain on the canvas before he needed help to his corner.

Silva, who made 10 title defenses over 2,457 days during his reign as UFC's greatest middleweight champion, lost for the fourth time in five fights. The 44-year-old Silva hobbled out of the cage and may be close to finally calling it a career.

USA hockey routs France

KOSICE, Slovakia — The United States rebounded from an upset loss to Slovakia in the opening game at the ice hockey world championship by routing France 7-1 on Sunday.

After losing 4-1 to the host, the U.S. was not ready for another upset. Alex DeBrincat scored twice and Frank Vatrano added one in less than two minutes to set the pace early in the opening period for the U.S. to take command in the Group A game in Kosice.

Colin White also had two while Patrick



LAURENCE KESTERSON/AP

A person familiar with the search says Frank Vogel has been hired as the new Lakers coach. The 45-year-old Vogel did not coach last season following two years with the Orlando Magic.

Kane, who captained the Americans to the bronze medal at last year's worlds in Denmark, scored his first goal in Slovakia and added an assist.

Kang retakes lead after delay

DALLAS — Sung Kang regained the lead at the Byron Nelson with three birdies on the back nine Sunday morning in the completion of the suspended third round, going back in front after blowing a four-stroke advantage in the first nine holes the previous day.

Kang was 19 under after finishing a round of 3-under 68. That put him three strokes ahead of playing partner Matt Every, who had four consecutive bogeys on the back nine in an up-and-down round of 67.

Rising: Durant's status uncertain as Warriors prep for West finals

FROM BACK PAGE

Stephen Curry scored all of his 33 points in the second half to lead the Warriors to a 118-113 win.

Klay Thompson added 27 points to help two-time defending champion Golden State reach the conference finals for a franchise-record fifth straight year and eliminate Houston for the fourth time in five seasons. The Warriors did it with Durant sidelined by a calf injury sustained in the second half of their Game 5 victory.

"We're all very happy, but now we've got to get home and get some rest and prepare for the next round," Kerr said.

There won't be a lot of time to recuperate with the conference finals starting on Tuesday night in Oakland against the winner of the Denver-Portland series. Kerr said he'd give his team the weekend off after most of his key players logged heavy minutes in this series in which each game was decided by six points or fewer.

Though this team has had plenty of big victories as it won the NBA title in the woe of the last four seasons, Kerr and many of his players acknowledged that this



BEN MARQUET/AP

The Warriors' Stephen Curry struggled with his shot often against the Rockets, but is out to regroup for the Western Conference finals.

win was pretty special.

"It's one of the most satisfying victories we've had during this run," Kerr said.

Draymond Green said that downing the Rockets again also meant a bit more since Houston has said since losing to the Warriors in last year's conference finals that its main focus was beating them this season.

"This one feels good ... just

because it was a team that said for years, 'We've built our best games down and one gives us a chance. You take all those things into account, this one feels amazing. If I said otherwise, I'd be sitting here lying to you.'

Curry struggled early, failing to score in the first half for the first time in 102 career playoff games, and had just 10 points through

three periods. But he got going in the fourth, scoring 23 points.

There were questions entering the game about how the Warriors would weather the loss of Durant — and his more than 34 points a game. But they didn't seem to miss a beat, getting 21 from Thompson in the first half before Curry closed it in the fourth.

The team said on Thursday that Durant would be re-evaluated next week and Kerr said after the game that it was too early to know if he could return at some point in the next series.

Though the Warriors were able to get past the Rockets behind big nights from Curry and Thompson, they know that their chances for defending the title are much better with Durant on the floor.

"I'm happy we won so we can get some rest and get him healthy," Thompson said. "Because if we want to get this three-peat, we desperately need him back. He's our best player, so we dearly miss him. We'll hold it down while he's out but it's not the same."

Curry finished out the series strongly, but faced criticism for most of it as he struggled with his shot. He discussed the "noise" surrounding him lately and how

Scoreboard

Conference semifinals

(Best-of-seven)	
Eastern Conference	
Milwaukee 4, Boston 1	
Boston 112, Milwaukee 90	
Milwaukee 123, Boston 102	
Milwaukee 123, Boston 116	
Milwaukee 113, Boston 101	
Milwaukee 116, Boston 91	
Toronto 3, Philadelphia 3	
Toronto 108, Philadelphia 95	
Philadelphia 94, Toronto 89	
Philadelphia 116, Toronto 95	
Toronto 101, Philadelphia 96	
Toronto 125, Philadelphia 89	
Philadelphia 112, Toronto 101	
Western Conference	
Golden State 4, Houston 2	
Golden State 104, Houston 100	
Golden State 115, Houston 109	
Houston 126, Golden State 121, OT	
Houston 112, Golden State 108	
Golden State 104, Houston 99	
Friday: Golden State 118, Houston 113	
Saturday: At Toronto	
Denver 121, Portland 113	
Portland 97, Denver 80	
Portland 140, Denver 137, 4OT	
Denver 116, Portland 112	
Denver 124, Portland 98	
Portland 119, Denver 108	
Sunday: At Denver	

he never let it get to him.

"I know what I'm capable of and it's bigger than me," he said.

"I don't get caught up in that. I don't need any extra motivation. I don't need to hear who I am as a player. I know that. My confidence never wavers."

NHL PLAYOFFS

Bruins glad McAvoy's back from suspension

By JIMMY GOLEN
Associated Press

BOSTON — When he's playing, Bruins defenseman Charlie McAvoy said, it's easy for him to maintain his composure and concentrate on the game in front of him.

Up in the press box, that's the hard part.

"I'm not a very good hockey watcher," McAvoy said as he prepared to return from his one-game suspension for Game 2 of the Eastern Conference finals against the Carolina Hurricanes. "The game seems like it's much longer."

McAvoy was suspended for a shoulder to the head of Columbus forward Josh Anderson in the second-round finale. So instead of taking the ice in his usual pairing with Zdeno Chara, McAvoy was wandering around the media dining area before Game 1, wondering if he had to play or not. (He didn't.)

And while his teammates were beating the Hurricanes 5-2 in the conference final opener, McAvoy was in street clothes on the very top level of the TD Garden, trying to keep his emotions under control.

"Here on this level, I'm like this," McAvoy said, holding out his hand, palm down, and moving it in a steady and straight line in front of his face.

"But up there," he said, pumping his fist and bouncing out of his imaginary seat. "I'm glad I get to play (Sunday)."

A 21-year-old first-round draft choice from Boston University, McAvoy had seven goals and 21 assists from the blue line this season, his second full season in the NHL. He missed six weeks early in the season with a concussion and another two over Christmas because of a foot injury.

But he hadn't had to sit out while healthy.

McAvoy said he would try to use the forced break to his advantage.

"Whenever you're out, you can use it as an opportunity to get other things feeling right," he said, adding that watching the game from above gave him a perspective that would be beneficial. "I feel like I picked up on some things."

Bruins coach Bruce Cassidy said McAvoy was missed for his physical play and his ability to start the transition to offense.

"Those up-the-middle passes that maybe the other guys just don't have the vision or confidence, or both, to make," he said.

"Those quick-strike plays where forwards are getting the pucks in their hands in good spots with a better chance to attack."

Steven Kampfer, who replaced McAvoy in the lineup, had Bruins' first goal, and the Bruins scored four times in the third period on Thursday night to take a 1-0 lead in the best-of-seven series. Game 2 was Sunday at the TD Garden.

Scoreboard

Conference finals	
(Best-of-seven; x-if necessary)	
EASTERN CONFERENCE	
Boston 5, Carolina 2	Sunday: at Boston
Tuesday: at Carolina	AFN-Sports2, 2 a.m. Wednesday CET; 9 a.m. Wednesday JKT
Thursday: at Carolina	AFN-Sports2, 2 a.m. Friday CET; 9 a.m. Friday JKT
x-Saturday, May 18: at Boston	x-Monday, May 20: at Carolina
x-Wednesday, May 22: at Boston	
WESTERN CONFERENCE	
San Jose 1, St. Louis 0	Saturday: San Jose 6, St. Louis 3
Monday: at San Jose	AFN-Sports2, 3 a.m. Tuesday CET; 10 a.m. Tuesday JKT
Wednesday: at St. Louis	AFN-Sports2, 2 a.m. Thursday CET; 9 a.m. Thursday JKT
Friday: at St. Louis	AFN-Sports2, 17:30 a.m. Saturday CET; 9 a.m. Saturday JKT
x-Sunday, May 19: at San Jose	x-Tuesday, May 21: at St. Louis
x-Thursday, May 23: at San Jose	

Saturday	
Sharks 6, Blues 3	
St. Louis 1	1 1 1-3
San Jose 3	1 1 1-6
First Period—1, San Jose, Couture 10 (Nyquist, Meier), 3:31. 2, St. Louis, Edmondson 1 (Schwartz, Tarasenko), 9:13. 3, San Jose, Pavelski 4 (Burns, E.Karlsson), 11:24 (pp).	
Second Period—4, San Jose, Labanc 4 (Thornton), 7:41. 5, St. Louis, O'Reilly 3 (Perron, Blais), 8:58. 6, San Jose, Meier 4 (Couture), 10:24. 7, San Jose, Meier 5 (Vlasik, Nyquist), 17:34.	
Third Period—8, St. Louis, Bozak 3 (Gunn, Maroon), 13:01. 9, San Jose, Couture 11 (Kane, Pavelski), 17:26.	
Shots on Goal—St. Louis 10-9-12-31. San Jose 11-5-1-24.	
Power-play opportunities—St. Louis 0 of 1; San Jose 1 of 4.	
Goalsies—St. Louis, Binnington 8-6 (24 shots-19 saves). San Jose, Jones 9-5 (31-28).	
A—17,562 (17,562). T—2:37.	

Scoring leaders	
PLAYOFFS/Through Thursday	
Player	GP G A PTS
Logan Couture, SJ	15 11 6 17
Brent Burns, SJ	15 5 10 15
Brad Marchand, BOS	14 5 10 15
Tomas Hertl, SJ	12 5 9 14
Mikko Rantanen, COL	12 6 5 13
Nathan MacKinnon, COL	12 5 8 13
Timo Meier, SJ	15 5 8 13
Erik Karlsson, SJ	13 13 13
Mark Stone, VEG	7 6 6 12
8 tied with 11 pts.	

Calendar	
May 27-June 1	— NHL scouting combine, Buffalo, N.Y.



CHARLES KRUPA/AP

Boston Bruins defenseman Charlie McAvoy returned Sunday from a one-game suspension after an illegal check to the head of Columbus Blue Jackets forward Josh Anderson. He missed the first game of the Eastern Conference finals against the Carolina Hurricanes.



JOSIE LEPE/AP

San Jose Sharks right wing Timo Meier (28) scores the first of his two second-period goals against St. Louis Blues goaltender Jordan Binnington. Meier led the Sharks to a 6-3 win Saturday in Game 1 of the Western Conference finals in San Jose, Calif.

Timo time: Meier lifts Sharks

Right wing's two second-period goals gives team 1-0 lead in series

By JOSH DUBOW
Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — On a San Jose Sharks team filled with established stars, 22-year-old Timo Meier can get overlooked at times even though he scored 30 goals in the regular season.

Meier showed in Game 1 of the Western Conference final that he can be a force in his own right, scoring twice and setting up one of Logan Couture's two goals with a hard hit to send the Sharks to a 6-3 victory over the St. Louis Blues on Saturday night.

"He was a bull," Couture said. "When he skates and his strength, he's tough to defend. We're fortunate enough to play with him on our line, and I thought he was really, really good. And he's coming into his own right now."

Meier's hit on Alex Pietrangolo led to Couture's goal that opened the scoring in the first period and he then scored twice in the second to give the Sharks a comfortable lead and their third straight Game 1 win this postseason.

Couture added an empty-net goal to give him an NHL-leading 11 in the postseason. Joe Pavelski and Kevin Labanc also scored for San Jose and Martin Jones made 28 saves.

"We have so many great guys on this team, so many players that are just unbelievable hockey players," Meier said. "It's fun to be able to play at this time of the year, and obviously have success, that's what I'm playing for. To win a Stanley Cup." Game 2 is Monday night at the Shark Tank.

Joe Edmondson, Ryan O'Reilly and Tyler Bozak scored for the Blues, but the team gave little help to rookie goalie Jordan Binnington to get off to a rough start in the conference final. Binnington made 19 saves but was left exposed by his defense on numerous occasions.

"There were a few too many mistakes out there," Edmondson said. "Whenever there was, they capitalized on them. They really capitalized on every chance they got. That was the biggest difference of tonight's game."

This is a matchup between two franchises seeking their first championships after years of playoff dis-

“He was a bull. When he skates and his strength, he's tough to defend. We're fortunate enough to play with him on our line, and I thought he was really, really good.”

Logan Couture

San Jose Sharks center on right wing Timo Meier

appointments. They endured tough routes to get here with the Sharks needing to win a pair of seven-game series and the Blues needing a double-overtime win in Game 7 against Dallas to make it to their fourth conference final in the past 49 years.

The teams traded goals midway through the second period with Labanc converting after a turnover by Edmondson and O'Reilly answering 1:17 later with a timely move to end around Jones and tuck a rebound into the open net.

Meier then took over with his two goals in the second half of the period that gave the Sharks breathing room. His first came after Couture poke-checked Colton Parayko coming out of the zone. Meier got the puck, deked past Jay Bouwmeester and then used his quick hands to get a backhand past Binnington.

"He's got some good speed. He makes some good little plays out there," Pavelski said. "Tonight it was on display for sure. When he picks it up in the neutral zone and he has the speed going, that one goal was really nice. He can definitely push the D back and generate some chances."

Meier then got his first two-goal game in the post-season late in the period when he banked a pass from behind the goal line off Vince Dunn's skate and into the net to make it 5-2.

Bozak scored with 6:59 left in the third for the Blues but they couldn't get any closer despite pulling Binnington with more than four minutes remaining. Couture then sealed it with an empty-netter.

"We got caught in some turnovers and they capitalized on them," Blues coach Craig Berube said.

SPORTS



Timo time

Sharks' winger nets pair of second-period goals » Page 31

NBA PLAYOFFS

Rising to the occasion

Warriors could be without Durant in conference finals

BY KRISTIE RIEKEN
Associated Press

HOUSTON

The Golden State Warriors still have plenty of work to do if they hope to win their third straight championship.

But after fending off the Houston Rockets on Friday night without leading playoff scorer Kevin Durant to advance to the Western Conference fi-

nals, they did take a moment to celebrate the accomplishment.

"It shows you how much respect we have for Houston," coach Steve Kerr said. "We just finished the conference semifinals series. We're only halfway home to where we want to be. And yet the celebration in there felt like a much bigger occasion and that's because of the challenge that this team put before us."

SEE RISING ON PAGE 30

'If we want to get this three-peat, we desperately need him back. ... We'll hold it down while he's out but it's not the same.'

Klay Thompson

Warriors shooting guard on teammate Kevin Durant, who suffered a calf injury during Game 5 of Golden State's series against the Houston Rockets



Pictured, clockwise from top left: the Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry, Klay Thompson, Kevin Durant, Andre Iguodala, and Draymond Green

AP photos

Keselowski dedicates victory to late mentor » Page 26



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